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PRETTY PEGGY
PRINCES T.,
February 3rd.
CHARLES AUSTIN
TOOTS POUNDS
LORNA POUNDS

THE ERA

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DIEU ET MON DROIT
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WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, First-class Attractions for the following date:—March 22.
Applications re dates to HUGH ROBERTSON, Theatre Royal, Jarrow.

NEW THEATRE, BOSTON.
NEW THEATRE, BOSTON.
NEW THEATRE, BOSTON.
NEW THEATRE, BOSTON.
Once nightly.
(Three nights or full week.)
Proprietors,
Scala Theatre (Boston) Co., Ltd.
Man. Dir., G. Aspland Howden.
'Phone, 135 Boston.
ALL THE FIRST-CLASS COMPANIES VISIT AND ARE COMING TO THE NEW THEATRE. This Theatre has the LARGEST SEATING CAPACITY IN THE DISTRICT. Beautifully furnished, good band and lighting. It has an advantage in possessing a large stage, 50ft. wide, 24ft. back, pros. opening 31ft., taking 18ft. flat, and capable of effectively producing any play. Five good dressing-rooms, and good admission prices. With the large holding capacity WE ARE PREPARED TO OFFER "TOP" SHARING TERMS, FREE OF COMMISSION, to KNOWN LONDON ATTRACTIONS.
Companies Wanted, to follow "Romance," "Chinese Puzzle," "Arcadians," "Daddy Long-Legs," "Nothing But the Truth," "Man from Toronto," "Freedom of the Seas," H. L. Osmond's "Dick Whittington," Joe Morris's "Babes," &c.

WANTED, COMPANIES,
EARLY DATES.
Apply for Bookings to the Booking Manager for the Company.
MR. WILL DALTON,
57, Parsonage-rd.,
Withington, Manchester.

Wire, "Granbeste, Manchester."

NEW THEATRE ROYAL, WINDSOR.
Licensee and Manager, J. E. BULL.
THE ALTERATION CARRIED OUT LAST JUNE HAS INCREASED THE CAPACITY FROM £80 TO £106.
WANTED, Up-to-date West End Attractions for April 26, May 30, and 10. Also Aug. 30, on, with few exceptions.

SCARBOROUGH GRAND OPERA HOUSE.
WANTED, First-class Attraction, Feb 16 week; only vacancy until November next.
Apply, WILLIAM PEACOCK, Theatre, Harrogate.

Palladium, Littlehampton, Sussex.
Hippo., Selsey, Sussex.
WANTED, Good Companies, Jan. 12 onward. One or more nights. Good stock season would do well. All coms., HARRY JOSEPH, Hotel Portland, Chesterfield.

HIPPODROME, EASTBOURNE.
HIPPODROME, DOVER.
WANTED, Revues, Musical Comedies, for immediate and future dates.
Fullest information of where can be seen to
EXCLUSIVE AGENTS,
EGBERTS, LTD.,
17, Shaftesbury-avenue, W. 1.
TELEPHONE: GERRARD 6519.
WIRES: EGBERTENCY, LONDON.

WANTED, Company, Dramatic or Comedy.
February 2.
MANAGER, Alexandra Theatre, Pontefract.

PALACE PIER THEATRE,
BRIGHTON.
WANTED, Companies. Vacant Jan. 26, Feb. 2, 9, 16, 23.
No Revues or Pantomimes.
all coms.,
J. W. CORDINER.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE,
WALSALL.
WANTED Known, Feb. 16 possibly vacant, Revue or Big Drama. Apply, W. J. ANDREWS, General Manager, Walsall Theatres Co., Ltd.

For other Companies Wanted see Displayed Wanted Section.

THEATRES WANTED.

"MONTY'S FLAPPER." "ANN."
WANTED, Feb. 23, March 8, 15, May 17, 24. HALDANE CRICHTON, 15, Bolton-gardens, Teddington.

Albert Chevalier as Joe Brown, in the Great Play
"MY OLD DUTCH."
By Arthur Shirley and Albert Chevalier.
500th performance.
WANTED Known, Companion Play, by same Authors, in preparation, entitled "A FALLEN STAR."

Communications, C. INGLE,
16, Bartholomew-villas, Kentish Town, London.

WAGNER & SKARDON'S COMPANY,
"DISGRACED."
The Finest Drama Touring.
WANTED, Jan. 19 (follow Palace, Bow, precede Burnley).
Wire, Brooks Villa, Ashford, Middlesex.

THEATRES WANTED.

New Romantic Play,
"NED KEAN OF OLD DRURY."
By Arthur Shirley.
West-End Company, including
H. A. Saintsbury.
Produced at Princes Theatre, Manchester, with enormous success.

WANTED, First-class Theatres, Autumn, 1920, and Spring, 1921.

Return bookings 1920, include King's T., Glasgow, Lyceum T., Edinburgh, T.R., Nottingham, &c.

Entire Production Carried.

Address, CECIL BARTH,
37, King-street, Covent Garden, WC. 2.

"BETTY AT BAY."
"BETTY AT BAY."
Direct from the Strand Theatre.
Entire London Production Carried.
WANTED, First-class Theatres,
Jan. 12 (South).
Also Feb. 16 and 23.
March 1, 15, and 22.
April 5, 12, 26.

Address, CECIL BARTH,
37, King-street, Covent Garden, WC. 2.

THE BRANDON THOMAS COMPANY IN
"CHARLEY'S AUNT."
Entire West-End Production Carried.
Direct from the Garrick Theatre.
WANTED, First-class Theatres,
Feb. 2, 3, 4 (three nights).

March 8, 15, and 29.

April 26, May 3, 17.

Address, CECIL BARTH,
37, King-street, Covent Garden, WC. 2.

CHARLES HAWTREY'S FAMOUS FARCICAL COMEDY,
"THE PRIVATE SECRETARY."
Entire West-End Production Carried.
WANTED, First-class Theatres,

July 12, 19,
Aug. 30, Sept. 6, 13, 20.

Address, CECIL BARTH,
37, King-street, Covent Garden, WC. 2.

ROBERT
COURTNEIDGE'S
COMPANIES.

"Daddies."
Haymarket Theatre, W.
"Daddies."
(Two companies).
With Mr. Mollison Kidd.
"The Man from Toronto."
(Three companies.)

WANTED, March 1, 8,
May 17, 24.

"The Law Divine."
Vacant March 8, April 5, 12,

"Scandal."
Vacant, North Co.,
Jan. 26, March 8.
South Co., Feb. 9, 16,
April 5.

"The Arcadians."

"Petticoat Fair."

"Too Many Girls."
"Paddy, the Next Best Thing."
To be produced Manchester, Feb. 23,

DOUGLAS MILLAR,
17, Shaftesbury-avenue, W. 1.

"THE BONNIE BRIER BUSH."
"THE BONNIE BRIER BUSH."
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"THE BONNIE BRIER BUSH."
This tour is proving the most successful of this wonderful play.
For business done this autumn refer to:—
Howard & Wyndham, Ltd., Edinburgh.
Arthur Jefferson, Glasgow.
A. J. & J. J. Wright, Greenock.
J. H. Savile, Perth, &c., &c.
Can be played once or twice nightly.
WANTED, Managers to send Vacant dates, Scotland or England.
DURWARD LELY, c/o Theatre, Perth.

LOUIS CALVERT in "DADDALUMS."
Prior to London production.
Cast includes Louis Calvert, Edyth Olive, Ernest Hendrie, Margaret Vaughan, W. Edward Stirling, Edward Bonfield, Francis Lister, &c.
WANTED, March 22 and Easter, April 5, June 28, and on.
Also entire production of "YOU NEVER CAN TELL," with Louis Calvert in his original part.
All coms., W. EDWARD STIRLING.
Next three weeks, West Pier, Brighton.

For the Great Success at the
CRITERION THEATRE.
"OUR MR. HEPPLEWHITE."
WANTED, Feb. 9, Aug. 9, Sept. 27, Oct. 4, 18, Nov. 8, 15, 29. Now booking 1921.
Apply, W. E. Holloway, 7, Ramillies-rd., Bedford Park, W. 11.

HORACE HODGES
in
"GRUMPY."

WANTED, Jan. 19 (precede Torquay), Feb. 16, March 15, April 5, 26, May 3, 24.

WALTER D. NICOLL,

This and next,
17, Leicester-street, W.C. 2.

"ARE YOU A MASON?"
From Comedy Theatre, London.
"THE NIGHT OF THE PARTY."
From Apollo Theatre, London.
WANTED, Dates. Apply, MR. WILLIAMS, 4, Featherstone-buildings, High Holborn.

WANTED, Proprietors of first-class Theatres, to witness "Dick Whittington" production, at Opera House, Coventry, during next two weeks, with view to production date next year.
Expenses refunded.

HENRY L. OSMOND.

"THE GIRL IN THE TAXI."

Terrific success of the new touring production.

WANTED, Jan. 26, follow Derby, and a few Autumn dates.

Wire or write,

HUBERT WOODWARD,
102, Charing Cross-road, W.C. 2.

THEATRES WANTED.

HAROLD V. NEILSON
presents
SIR FRANK BENSON
and the famous Benson Shakespearean Company, in
New and Special Productions of
"THE MERCHANT OF VENICE,"
"HAMLET,"
"THE MERRY WIVES OF WINDSOR,"
"THE TAMING OF THE SHREW,"
"TWELFTH NIGHT,"
"JULIUS CÆSAR."
Now concluding a special season of six weeks at the New Queen's Theatre, Manchester. Rebooked by John Hart, Esq., for a further season of eight weeks in 1920.
Gross Receipts.

"Hamlet" (one week)	£1,056 11 5
"The Taming of the Shrew" (one week)	£893 17 11
"Julius Cæsar" (four days)	£924 8 5

WANTED, Feb. 9, Feb. 9, Feb. 9, March 15, March 15, March 15.

HAROLD V. NEILSON,
89, Parliament Hill-mansions, N.W. 5.

HAROLD V. NEILSON
presents the late Weedon Grossmith's Farcical Comedy,
"MY SOLDIER BOY."
"MY SOLDIER BOY."
"MY SOLDIER BOY."
Just concluded highly successful tour of twenty-three weeks, with average weekly takings of over £400.

Gross receipts at the Palace Pier Theatre, Brighton, at prices, 8d. to 3s.:—
£652 5s. 1d.
£652 5s. 1d.
£652 5s. 1d.
£652 5s. 1d.
£652 5s. 1d.

At the Garrison Theatres "My Soldier Boy" on many occasions exceeded the gross takings of "The Merry Widow" and "The Maid of the Mountains."

WANTED, First-class Theatres or Music Halls, twice nightly, for various Spring dates, February-July, onwards.

HAROLD V. NEILSON,
89, Parliament Hill-mansions, N.W. 5.

VENTOM SWIFT'S PRODUCTIONS.

"ALL ABOARD."
WANTED, April 5, May 3, South, May 24 (?), on, with exceptions.
"BABES IN THE WOOD."
FULLY BOOKED.
Vacancies next season.
"MOTHER GOOSE."
FULLY BOOKED.
Vacancies next season.
Coms., VENTOM SWIFT.
This week, Empire, Barnsley.
Next week, Lyric, Liverpool.

WANTED Known.
Following shortly after "All Aboard," which broke all records for revue at the Theatre Royal, Hyde, Mr. Ventom Swift's "Mother Goose" broke all records since the theatre has been built by playing to over £900 gross.

B. M. DUNSTAN.

FRANK FORBES-ROBERTSON.

Present,

By arrangement with Mr. Arthur Bertram

(Of the Savoy Theatre),

"A WESTERN GIRL."

A Strong Drama of North-West Canada.

Just concluding most successful tour of Garrison Theatres.

WANTED,

Drama Theatres,
for Spring and Autumn.

Apply to
FRANK FORBES-ROBERTSON,
7, Titchfield-terrace, Regent's Park, N.W.

VACANT.
"BREWSTER'S MILLIONS."
WANTED, January 26.
"THE LUCK OF THE NAVY."
May 17.
"GENERAL POST."
May 24.
ALEXANDER TELFORD, 58, Shaftesbury-avenue, W. 1.

WANTED, Jan. 19, Lena Stanton's Record Panto.,
"ROBINSON CRUSOE."
Boxing night at Alex. T., Widnes, packed at early doors. Following night, Sat., £10 3s. more than Boxing night. Refer Kiddie and Bray.
Last week, King's Theatre, Colne, hundreds turned away nightly. All records beaten, every performance packed. Monday night the lowest return. Refer Tom Lancaster, Esq., Manager. Second visit in six months, and re-booked for two more visits. Now playing third annual visit Hippodrome, Chesterfield. Refer Messrs. Beresford and Pearce, Hippodrome Buildings, Manchester. All coms., HARRY JOSEPH, Hotel Portland, Chesterfield.

WANTED, Theatres for the Play Everyone is Talking About.

"THE JEFFERSONS."

Magnificent Company, including Mr. Wilfred Shine (in his original character).
Fourth Year of Tour.
Nearing 1,000th Performance.
Wanted, First-class Theatres.
March 8, 29, April 12 (?), May 24, July 19.

Write or wire,

ALBERT DOUGLASS,
Winter Gardens,
New Brighton.

WANTED, First-class Theatres, HERBERT JAY & ANTHONY ELLIS'S CO., in the world's record Farce,
"A LITTLE BIT OF FLUFF."
March 1, Midlands or North.
May 3, Midlands or South.
Aug. 2 (3 nights), South.
And a few weeks for Autumn.
Apply, PERCIVAL M. SELBY,
7 and 8, Leicester-place, W.C. 2.

WANTED, between South Coast and Midlands, for West-End Musical Comedy success, March 15, March 15, March 15.
Apply, MORETON & HEATH,
7-8, Leicester-place, W.C. 2.

J. Forbes Knowles Co.
WANTED, Theatres, also one for Repertoire.
17, Leicester-street, W.C. 2.

WANTED, Theatre, Jan. 26, for "The Right to Live" and "The Heart of a Thief." W. V. GARROD, 94, Kennington Park-rd., London, S.E. 11.

THEATRES WANTED.

WANTED, Number One Theatres and Music Halls only. Once or Twice Nightly.

"BUZZ-BUZZ."

The Greatest Musical Success of the present London season. Has been running over 12 months continuously at the Vaudeville Theatre.

Feb. 23, March 15 (Midlands or North).
March 29, April 12, 19, 26 (South).
May 10, June 7, 14, July 5, 12, 19, 26, Aug. 23.
Sept. 16 (3 nights), to follow Rhyl, Sept. 20, 27, Oct. 4, 11, 25, onwards.

"BUBBLY."

André Charlot's phenomenally successful Musical Production from the Comedy, London.

March 22 (to follow King's, Southsea), and a few dates on.

Also several vacancies Autumn, 1920.

"THE GIRL FROM CIRO'S."

The entire production from the Garrick Theatre, London, carried. Third visits booked King's, Edinburgh, Borough, Stratford, Blackpool, Theatre Royal, Chatham, &c., &c.

Jan. 26, Feb. 23 (Midlands or North), to precede O.H., Middlebrough, March 29, April 5, 19, 26, Aug. 9, onwards.

"HOBSON'S CHOICE."

The successful Farcical Comedy from the Prince of Wales and Apollo Theatres, London. Bookings include P.O.W., Birmingham; O.H., Middlesbrough; Grand, Blackpool; Edinburgh; H.M.T., Dundee; Empire, Penge; Empire, Preston; Palace, Southampton; Hippo., Richmond; &c., &c. Feb. 23 (South).

April 5, 19, 26, May 3, 24, 31, June 7, 17 (3 nights), to follow Oxford, July 1 (3 nights), to follow Weston-super-Mare, July 5, 12, 22 (3 nights), to follow Rhyl, Aug. 2, 9, 30, Sept. 13, 27, and a few dates, on.

"TYPHOON."

The late Laurence Irving's Great Dramatic Success from the Haymarket and Queen's Theatres, London.

First Tour of the Provinces.

Feb. 2 (between Brighton and Harrogate).
Feb. 19 (3 nights), to follow Grantham.
Feb. 23, March 1, 8, 22, 29. April 5, 12, 19, and May 24.

Also various dates Summer and Autumn.

Wire or write,
W. FOSTER HORSFIELD,
Suites 17-18, 26, Charing Cross-rd., W.C. 2.
Telephone, Regent 208.

"A WEEK END."
"A WEEK END."
"A WEEK END."

The enormously successful Farce by Walter W. Ellis.

Unexpectedly vacant Jan. 26.
Plays once or twice nightly.

WANTED, Jan. 26.

Wire. Wire. Wire.

LEON VINT, 142, Long Acre, W.C. 2.

Telegrams: Vinticon, Rand, London.

'Phone. 6549 Gerrard.

WANTED, Theatres in South Wales district, Jan. 19, Feb. 9, for "One Law for Both" and "A Love Marriage." W. V. GARROD, New Hall, Bargoed.

HARRY HART'S
PREMIER COMBINATION.

WANTED, Fit-up Dates or Small Halls, Jan. 19, on, with exceptions, three or six nights, share or rental. Comapny includes:—

Arthur Lloyd, son of the late Arthur Lloyd, Esq., from Drury-lane and London Coliseum.

Fred Lester, the silver-voiced tenor.

Jack Edwin, low comedian.

Harry Douglas, from principal London halls,

and other well-known Artists.

Special Printing and Agent.
Wire for immediate dates.
NORMAN A. OVERTON,
c/o "Era," 35, Wellington-street, W.C. 2.

ALLEN & EDWARDS.

The Pioneers of Popular Pantomime, Presented their Established Success,

"CINDERELLA."
"CINDERELLA."
"CINDERELLA."

Boxing Day, at the Opera House, Scarborough, following on to Opera House, Harrogate.

"CINDERELLA."
"CINDERELLA."
"CINDERELLA."

The beautiful Fairy Pantomime, is a greater success than ever.

New Scenery. Now Wardrobe. 40 in company.

Managers invited to see "Cinderella" with the view of production next year. Two offers already under consideration.

WANTED Known, only Vacant Dates this year, Feb. 16 and 23.

Thanks for offers already received.

"DICK WHITTINGTON AND HIS CAT" will be sent out next Christmas replete with first-class company, new and beautiful scenery and dresses.

Production date practically settled.

Address, Opera House, Harrogate.

For other Theatres Wanted see Displayed Wanted Section

ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, First-class Soubrette, for lead in "Bubbly," on tour; must be of excellent appearance, and be able to Buck and Step Dance. Apply, by letter only, to AUGUSTUS BINGHAM, Suite 17, 26, Charing Cross-rd., W.C.

"THE JEFFERSONS."

WANTED, Sound Actor with strong voice for Mosscrop; must speak Lancashire dialect correctly; also Carpenter to play small part; 10 months' tour. DOUGLASS, Winter Gardens, New Brighton.

For Chinese Part.

WANTED, Gentleman to rehearse shortly; must be first-class artist, accustomed to Oriental parts. Send stage photo., with full particulars in first place to HAROLD HOLLAND, 6, Clarendon-street, Victoria, S.W. 1.

WANTED, Cinema Artists, all lines, for important British productions; photos. essential. SIDNEY JAY, 205, Oxford-street, W. 1. 'Phone, Museum 4329.

WANTED, Revue and Panto. Artists, immediate and future dates; Troupe of Dancers. Fullest particulars, photo, terms, refs., age, &c., to HARRY JOSEPH, Hotel Portland, Chesterfield.

WANTED Known, Vacancy for first-class, very powerful Character Actor, for "Eyes of Youth." Photos, height, and lowest terms, KEITH KENNETH, Grand Theatre, Luton.

WANTED, good Acrobat to play "Poodle." Wire, OSMOND, Opera House, Coventry.

WANTED, Artists (all lines) and smart Chorus Ladies, for Revue. Photos. and lowest terms, particulars, and where can be seen working, ROBT. AINSLEY, New Gaiety Theatre, Houghton-le-Spring.

ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED,
PRINCIPALS,
CHORUS,
and
ORCHESTRA,
Desiring to join the
CARL ROSA OPERA CO.,
Apply (by letter only) to
The Secretary,
Carl Rosa Opera Co.,
3, Staple Inn, Holborn, W.C. 1.

The tours of late years have averaged 50 weeks each.

A Few Vacancies this Tour.

Engagements now being made for summer and autumn. 1920.

WANTED, First-class Chorus Dancers, for "Bubbly" tour; must rehearse immediately. Apply, by letter only, to AUGUSTUS BINGHAM, Suite 17, 26, Charing Cross-road, W.C.

WANTED, for new musical production, Chorus Ladies who can sing and dance; young, not tall, must have had experience; to rehearse immediately. Apply, Thursday, 10.30, NEVILL GRAHAM, 61/63, Brixton-road, S.W.

"OH! I" CO.

WANTED, Four Refined Tall Chorus Ladies.

Good voices essential.

Terms, age, refs., photo.,
BROS. HANAWAY.
Jan. 5, Hip., Ipswich.

WANTED,

Girls
(Dancers),
for
Paris
and
Brussels.

Immediately.

Also
for Spring.

(Provincial applications considered.)

TILLER SCHOOLS,
143, Charing Cross-road, W.C. 2.

WANTED, ladies, gentlemen and children, to train for "Midsummer Night's Dream" production. Write for interview. SIBYL WARD, Hasluck's Academy, 10-11, Great Newport-street, W.C. 2.

WANTED, Coach and Stage Manager for the Paisley Opera Club, producing "The Gondoliers" on March 15, 1920. Apply to W. DYKES BROWN, Solicitor, 97, High-street, Paisley.

WANTED, Boys, Girls, slight knowledge dancing; London theatre. Call, 12 to 1, VILLIERS, 13, George-street, Hanover-square, W.

ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED Known, Grand Opera Prima Donna, Mezzo-Soprano; exceptionally fine appearance; thoroughly experienced (good accompanist), desires Engagement; London preferred; opera, concert, "At Homes," &c. Write, MEZZO-SOPRANO, c/o Lander, Flat 4, 2, Powis-square, Bayswater.

PANTOMIME ARTISTS WANTED

WANTED, good Comedian for Baron, "Goody Two Shoes"; also smart Tumbler for dog and props; experienced Chorus Ladies.

HENRY L. OSMOND, O.H., Coventry.

AMATEURS, PUPILS, ETC., WANTED.

WANTED, Amateurs, Aspirants; splendid opportunity start professionally. Stamp. Call afternoons. MR. D'ALBERT, 3, Stansfield-road, Stockwell-road, S.W.

WANTED, Aspirants, Music Halls, Theatres, Concert Stage; everything supplied; every assistance given; start now. D'ALBERT, above address.

WANTED, Amateurs, Beginners. 200 successful clients appearing. Established 25 years. Always vacancies every description. D'ALBERT, above address.

WANTED, Aspirants wishing to be Music Hall, Theatre, Cinema Stars, Film Plot Writers, &c., write to ME for Expert Advice and Information (personal or postal). I can teach them, write them star songs, &c., arrange engagements, provide everything. I am the most experienced teacher. Recommended by Reg. Wentworth, Joe Archer, and other stars. See "Stage" advt. Singing, dancing, ventriloquism, &c., taught. Those wanting trial turn, where agent will see and book them if suitable, write, Stage Guide (Cinema, Theatre, Music Hall), 1s. Band books sold, melodies composed, band parts arranged, acts, sketches, &c., produced. Stamp for reply, HERBERT COLE (Artist), 39, Burton-road, Brixton, London, S.W. 9. Concerts of known artists provided and managed.

MISCELLANEOUS.

WANTED Known, Managers requiring Artists, communicate FRANK PERRY & ROBSON, 201a, High Holborn, W.C.

WANTED, Assistant Manager, for Picture Theatre; must be active and not over 30. Apply, with full particulars as to experience and salary required, to Box 139, "The Era."

WANTED, at once, Carpenter with tools and brushes, to touch up and be generally useful for Oriental Illusions; perm. job. Apply, with full pars., age, height, salary, copy of ref., &c., to LINGA SINGH, Empire, Longton. Next, London Coliseum.

WANTED, Billposter and Property Man; permanency for good, willing man.
DOUGLAS, Winter Gardens, New Brighton.

WANTED, Billposter and Property Man; permanency for good, willing man. DOUGLASS, Winter Gardens, New Brighton.

Billposters.

WANTED, 2 First-class Practical Men, leading hands; must be capable top ladder work; preference to abstainers; wages 65s. per week, 48 hours. Write, enclosing testimonials, stating age, &c., to Box 135, "The Era."

WANTED, for tour, experienced Wardrobe Hand, to help in wardrobe; regular work. Apply, D'OYLY CARTE OPERA CO., Savoy Hotel, Strand, W.C.

WANTED, Scenic Artists, to know that Leetes' hold a large stock of Scenic Colours, Brushes, &c. Write for Catalogue. A. LEETE & CO., 129, London-road, Southwark, S.E. 1.

WANTED, by a capable business woman, Position as Manageress in theatre, music hall, or cinema; thoroughly competent; 16 years' experience; highest references; accomplished pianiste. Address, P., 10, Palmer's-road, Norbury, S.W.

PRESERVE YOUR MUSIC—PUT IT IN A "MAURIENA" COVER.

MUSIC THIS WEEK'S NOVELTIES. PIENA

"IDYLLE AU MOULIN," by POPY—Overture.
F.O. 2/-; S.O. 1/6; P.C. 6d.; E.P. 3d.

"MARPHA," by DARAS—Romance.
"LOIN D'ELLE," by DARAS—Reverie.
"LILY," by DARAS—Light.
F.O. 1/6; S.O. 1/3; P.C. 6d.; E.P. 3d.

FOR SAMPLE PARCEL SEND 2/3. STATE COMBINATION REQUIRED.

OBTAINABLE FROM

MESSRS. CRANE & SONS, Ltd., LIVERPOOL......ST. HELENS and BELFAST.........
GOLDMAN, SOUTH SHIELDS.........3, CARLISLE TERRACE, BRADFORD,.......AND

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USE A "MAURIENA" COVER, AND DOUBLE THE LIFE OF YOUR MUSIC.

PRICES:— Small size, 3d. each; 2/9 per dozen. Large size, 5d. each; 4/6 per dozen. Large quantities by arrangement.

MISCELLANEOUS.

WANTED Known, Manager, with vast experience, requires position; London or Country; tour or resident; highest possible reference. Address, Box 118, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement as Resident Manager, by gent., with over 25 years' experience as manager, producer, and actor. Box 113, "The Era."

WANTED Known, BERT J. YARD, at liberty for Stage Management, Carpenter (mechanic), M.H. or Theatre. If you need a practical man, Wire, 6, Oakfield-place, Clifton, Bristol.

WANTED, Change, by Variety Stage Manager, used to lightning programmes; can stage anything; highest refs. Enough said. I am open. "CONFIDENCE," Box 130, "The Era."

WANTED, by Property Man, Situation, capable Parts, S.M. Wire, C. HOUSE, Hippodrome, Manchester.

WANTED Known, Bill Inspector wants work, Monday next. BILL INSPECTOR, 119, Windmill-lane, Smethwick.

WANTED Known, DAN. BARKER, Scenic Artist, Studio, Surrey Theatre, London, is open to accept offers for touching up, repainting, &c., scenery; music hall scenes a speciality; terms moderate; just finishing "Bubbly" revue. All coms., 85, Brandon-street, London, S.E. 17.

WANTED Known, clever Young Lady, can design and copy theatrical and modern dresses, &c., for London; can speak several languages. Write, Box 00698, CLARK'S, 58, Gt. Portland-st., W. 1.

MUSICIANS WANTED.

WANTED, Violin Leaders, Repetiteurs, 'Cellist, Orchestral Pianist, Double Bass Players, and Drummers for high-class Cinema Engagements. Apply at once.
MAURICE PIENA,
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BRIXTON DANCING PALACE, LTD.—Regd. Dec. 31. 160, New Bond-street, W. To acquire and carry on the business of dancing and cinematograph halls. Capital, £20,000, in 5,000 preference shares and 15,000 ordinary shares of £1 each. Directors: J. W. May, 109, Maida Vale, W.; E. H. Coe, 68, Canadian-avenue, Catford; E. A. Cordell, 9, Boundary-road, St. John's Wood; H. H. Abbott, 9, Holmesdale-avenue, East Sheen.

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ESHER PICTURE THEATRE, LTD.—Regd. Dec. 24. 120, London Wall, E.C. 2. To carry on the business of proprietors of theatres and cinematograph shows. Capital, £2,500, in 2,500 ordinary shares of £1 each. Directors: H. R. Cohen, 14, Station-road, Hampton Wick, Middlesex; E. Arskie, 73, Wentworth-road, Golders Green, N.W.

FILMIT, LTD. Regd. Dec. 30. 9, Great Newport-street, W.C.2. To acquire and carry on the business of manufacturers of photo plays and cinematograph films. Capital, £3,000 in 2,990 ordinary shares of £1 each, and 200 founders shares of 1s. each. Directors: E. C. Haag, 73, Sandgate-road, Folkestone, Kent; J. W. Collingburn, 65, Airedale-avenue, Chiswick, Middlesex.

GRAND PALACE (POPLAR), 1920, LTD.—Regd. Jan. 1. Central House, 34-36, Oxford-street, W. To acquire and carry on the business of music hall, picture palace, and cinematograph theatre proprietors. Capital, £45,000, in 45,000 shares of £1 each. Directors: J Holloway, 66, Ritherdon-road, Balham, S.W. (per. directors); H. Green, 164a, Bedford-hill, Balham, S.W.; D. Thomas, "Kenilworth," Cambridge-park, Wanstead

MOTOR SCREEN ADVERTS., LTD.—Regd. Dec. 20, 1919. To carry on the business of dealers and manufacturers of cinematograph and animated picture machines. Capital, £100, in 100 shares of £1 each. Subscribers: P. G. Palmer, 2, Harringay-gardens, Green Lane, N.; H. S. Mennitt, 273, Forest-road, Walthamstow, Essex.

THEATRE EMPLOYEES' DISPUTE ENDED.

AMENDED TERMS OF NEW AWARD.

Peace has been proclaimed in the dispute between the National Association of Theatrical Employees and the Society of West End Managers. The decision was reached at a mass meeting of employees held at the Haymarket Theatre on Sunday, for the purpose of considering proposals which had been made as a result of a conference between representatives of the two bodies held the previous Wednesday.

Mr. W. Johnson presided at Sunday's meeting, which was private, and the following resolution was adopted:—

That this meeting is emphatically of opinion that an arbitrator appointed to decide what would be an equitable increase in the rates of pay could not in equity award a less sum than a sum which, having regard to the present cost of living, would enable a worker to maintain his pre-war standard of life. Further, that this meeting declines to recognise the proposals now submitted as generally making provision to maintain the pre-war standard of life, but having regard to the complications created by the award and the concessions made by the managers and the short period during which the amended award will operate, and being anxious to preserve peace in the industry and friendly relations with employers, it be resolved that the meeting authorise the acceptance of the managers' offer and the award as amending the 1918 agreement.

THE AMENDED AWARD.

We print below the Arbitrator's Award, with modifications in brackets, agreed to by the Conference and accepted by the Association.

THE SOCIETY OF WEST END THEATRE MANAGERS AND THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF THEATRICAL EMPLOYEES' AWARD, DECEMBER 8, 1919.

PART 1.—HEADS OF DEPARTMENTS—STAGE.

Position.—(a) Master carpenters, chief electricians and property masters making properties.

Minimum wage.—(b) £5 15s. per week.

Position.—(e) Property masters not making properties.

Minimum wage.—(f) £4 15s. per week.

PART 2.—CARPENTERS AND JOINERS—PAINTERS AND DECORATORS.

Carpenters and joiners (bench hands).—(a) The London trade union rate.

(a) NOTE.—The present rate is 1s. 11½d. per hour.

Leading carpenter and joiner.—(b) 1d. per hour above the minimum rate.

Painter and decorator (qualified journeyman).—(f) The London trade union rate.

(b) NOTE.—The present rate is 1s. 10½d. per hour.

PART 3.—DAYMEN EMPLOYED IN A STAGE DEPARTMENT.

Wiremen (minimum rate).—(a) The London trade union rate.

(c) NOTE.—The present rate was stated to be 1s. 9½d. per hour, but this rate is understood to be under consideration.

Property bench hands.—(b) Employed to help preparing, casting, on paper work, painting, and/or finishing properties, 1s. 4d. per hour.

Daymen, leading hands.—(d) 1s. 2d. per hour.

[1s. 5d. and 1s. 6d. overtime increase from 4½d. (award) to 6d. for every 15 mins. or portion thereof.]

Other daymen in any stage department.—(e) 1s. 1d. per hour.

PART 4.—PERFORMANCE RATE AND TIME—STAGE DEPARTMENTS.

Minimum rate.—(d) 4s. 6d. per performance.

Overtime rate.—(f) Any time required above three hours for any performance to be paid for at the rate of 4½d. per fifteen minutes or portion thereof, combining the excess times on the performances given in any one week.

Charge hands in each department, perch light operators, greencoats, or other employees, required to put on uniform, or otherwise dress to appear in sight.—(g) 5s. per performance (time and overtime as per clauses (c), (e) and (f) above).

Helping to "set" scene.—(h) Members of the stage staff called in to help "set" the first scene for a matinée or evening performance, shall be paid 9d. for each half hour or portion thereof.

Members of the stage staff assisting on or off the stage by "shouting" or helping to make up a crowd, or in any other way special to the play when "making up" is not required.—(i) 6d. per performance.

Supers.—(j) 2s. 9d. per performance. (A member of the staff engaged as a super to be paid full rate for a super.)

PART 5.—PERFORMANCE RATE AND TIME—FRONT OF THE HOUSE STAFF.

Money takers, check takers, janitors, ushers (male), attendants (male), and linkmen. Minimum rate.—(d) 3s. 6d. per performance.

Overtime.—(f) Any time in excess of 3½ hours for any performances to be paid for at the rate of 4½d. for 15 minutes or portion thereof, combining the excess times on the performances given in any one week.

[Money takers have been separated from the rest, and have been granted 4s.; the rest as per award 3s. 6d., and 6d. instead of 4½d. for every 15 minutes overtime.]

Programme sellers, minimum rate.—(g) 23s. per week of eight performances, or less; 3s. per performance for each in excess of eight performances per week. (Where programme sellers are engaged on a commission basis the same shall continue, but each employee shall be guaranteed the minimum rate above and retain any commissions and gratuities earned in excess thereof.)

[24s. a week. In cases where it does not come up to that amount, the management to make it up.]

Cloakroom attendants (men or women, minimum rate.—(j) 24s. per week of eight performances or less, 3s. 6d. per performance for each in excess of eight performances per week.

PART 6.—BOX OFFICE DEPARTMENT.

No. 2 assistant, minimum rate.—(a) £2 7s. 6d. per week.

Other assistants and/or telephone operators.—(b) £2 per week.

PART 7.—WARDROBE DEPARTMENT.

Wardrobe mistress, minimum rate.—(a) £2 16s. per week.

Assistants, charge hands, minimum rate.—(d) 11½d. per hour.

Other assistants.—(e) 10½d. per hour. (A day's pay to be guaranteed to those employed by the hour.)

PART 8.—ADVERTISING DEPARTMENT.

Chief bill inspectors, minimum rate.—(a) £2 12s. per week.

Assistants and bill posters, minimum rates.—(d) 1s. per hour. (A day's pay to be guaranteed to those employed by the hour.)

PART 9.—REFRESHMENT DEPARTMENT.

Manager or manageress, minimum rate.—(a) £2 16s. per week.

[£3 in place of £2 16s., the award.]

Cellarmen, minimum rate.—(d) £2 6s. per week.

[£2 10s. in place of £2 6s.]

Barmaids and barmen, minimum rate.—(g) 3s. 6d. per performance.

[4s. in place of 3s. 6d.]

PART 10.—HOUSEKEEPER'S DEPARTMENT.

Position.—(a) Housekeeper.

Minimum rate.—(b) £2 per week.

Women canvas sewers, minimum rate.—(e) 10½d. per hour, with a minimum 5s. 10d. per day.

Women cleaners, minimum rate.—(h) 9½d. per hour, with a minimum of £1 3s. per week.

Women cleaners employed by the day.—(i) A minimum of 4s. 7d. per day, or 9½d. per hour, 10d. in place of 9½d. per hour, for the time worked, whichever the larger sum.

Men, vacuum or brass cleaners, minimum rate.—(k) 1s. per hour. (A day's pay to be guaranteed to those employed by the hour.)

SPECIAL.—(n) The minimum rate for men not specially mentioned to be not less than 1s. per hour. (A day's pay to be guaranteed to those employed by the hour.)

[All inclusive male labour has been granted 1s. 3d. per hour in place of 1s., which was the award.]

Dressers, minimum rate.—(o) 3s. 6d. per performance.

Overtime.—(q) Any time required in excess of four hours for any performance to be paid for at the rate of 4½d. per fifteen minutes or portion thereof, combining the excess times on the performances given in any one week.

PART 11.—FIREMEN AND HALL-KEEPERS.

[The firemen were awarded £2 7s. 6d. per week for 70 hours. The managers have granted £3. The hallmen were also awarded £2 7s. 6d. This has been increased to £2 10s., but in no case has the arbitrator altered the hours, which remain as in the 1918 award, although the N.A.T.E. asked in their proposals for a 48 hours' week.]

Mr. Edward Mason, the secretary of the Association, has explained that the agreement will date back to Oct. 8 last, and only remain in force for twelve months from then.

"The fact," he added, "of the agreement being for such a short period had much to do with its acceptance, as its terms in no instance put the employees on a pre-war footing."

"PRINCESS IDA" AT THE PRINCE'S.

"Princess Ida" is proving as popular at the Prince's as any of its fore or after-runners. Mr. Rupert D'Oyly Carte put it into his six weeks of repertory on Tuesday last week, and repeated it on Wednesday, and twice on Saturday, before over-flowing audiences, who obviously enjoyed every moment, both of music and book. Perhaps Gilbert's treatment of the women's question was too "advanced" for the 1884 generation. Some of his quips and sallies might have been inspired by recent ebullitions of the sex, so up-to-date do they sound, and so unmistakably do they tickle present-day palates.

The performance was one of the best the present company has given. Mr. Henry A. Lytton's King Gama is constellatory. He hits off the sardonic humour of the peculiarly Gilbertian "disagreeable man" in the neatest and most laughable way. In "Oh! Don't the Days Seem Lank and Long" his exasperation was as comical as anything in his whole range of parts. Miss Sylvia Cecil makes her biggest success thus far in the title rôle. The music suits her—the "I Build Upon a Rock" was delightfully sung—and she puts a pleasing touch of poetry into the character. King Hildebrand is one of Mr. Leo Sheffield's happiest efforts, and a like compliment may be paid to Miss Bertha Lewis's imposing and equally well-sung Lady Blanche. There is a tuneful trio in Messrs. James Hay, Derek Oldham, and Gordon Cleather as Hilarion, Cyril, and Florian, and as the affinities of the two last named, Miss Marion Brignal and Miss Nellie Briercliffe sang with charm and effectively pointed the pat or pert remarks that fall to the share of the ladies Psyche and Melissa. Some of the most excellent of the singing came from Messrs. Frederick Hobbs, Jo Ruff, and George Sinclair, as Arac, Guron, and Scynthius, Gama's filial bodyguard.

As with all the other revivals, "Princess Ida" is beautifully put on. Mr. W. Bridges Adams' scenic designs for each of the three acts and the 'varsity and amazon dresses are most picturesque.

"SILENT HOUSE MYSTERY."

Drama in Five Scenes, by Wilson Howard, Produced at the Hippodrome, Nuneaton, on Jan. 5.

Billie Roper .... Mr. Wilson Howard
Barney Plunker .... Mr. T. H. Taylor
Dr. Black .... Mr. T. C. Conlon
Professor Deene Mr. Fred Connynghame
Violet Deene Miss Maud Warburton
Patty Push ...... Miss Ella Thornton
Mrs. Ragett ...... Miss Dora Horton
A Policeman ...... Mr. C. W. Elliott

Billie Roper, a newspaper reporter, returning home at midnight, hears a woman's screams, apparently from a house which appears to be shut up and empty. Billie bursts open the door, and entering a room, finds that by some mysterious method, the door is fastened behind him. While he stands meditating what is best to be done, he is suddenly dragged off his feet through a revolving fireplace. He next finds himself in the street, bound and gagged. To a policeman who discovers him he tells his story, but the constable imagines him to be either drunk or mad. At this juncture a girl rushes out of the house screaming. Unable to get hold of the girl, they determine to investigate for themselves. Roper shows the policeman the room from which he was abducted, the door of which is of steel, and the windows mysteriously barred. At the fireplace they find a man dead. When they are about to summon assistance, they find that the door has again been closed against them. About to break it down, a girl suddenly appears and upon being questioned, informs them that she is anxious about her father, but she denies all knowledge of the dead man. The policeman and the girl search the house, while Roper goes to secure assistance. When the policeman and the girl return they find that the dead man has been spirited away.

The next scene shows Roper's colleagues on the paper indulging in a humorous boxing match, which is interrupted by the girl, who comes to solicit the assistance of Roper. Close upon her heels comes Dr. Black, who declares that he is her guardian. By a ruse, Violet Deene, the girl in question, is enticed back to this house of mystery. It appears that the girl's father, Professor Deene, is an eminent scientific authority, who has made a remarkable discovery that might work either untold good, or ill, as applied. The doctor is anxious to obtain details of this knowledge, and is prepared to go to any length, even to torture or murder, to do so. Roper and his friends break into the doctor's house and succeed in the nick of time in frustrating his evil designs, and rescue Professor Deene and his daughter. With the conclusion that Roper and the girl will become more than friends, and the removal of the aspiring Black, who is killed by one of his own devilish devices, the play ends.

There are many exciting moments in the play, which is, however, enlivened with much entertaining comedy, supplied by Barney Plunker, a sporting editor, and Patty Push, a lady reporter. Mr. Raggett is also a quaintly humorous character.

Mr. Wilson Howard is eminently fitted for the part of Billie Roper, as also is Miss Maud Warburton for that of Violet Deene, the heroine of the story. Deserving of favourable mention also are Mr. Fred Connynghame as Professor Deene, and Mr. C. T. Conlon as Dr. Black.

PROVINCIAL CENTRES.

BIRMINGHAM.

PRINCE OF WALES'.—P., Prince of Wales' Theatre (Birmingham), Ltd.; G. M., Mr. Philip Rodway; A. M., Mr. G. D. Bradbury; Mus. D., Mr. H. Rushworth.—An experiment which is succeeding very well is being made by the management of the Prince's. While the pantomimes are running musical comedy is installed here, "The Kiss Call" having been put on "for a season." Well mounted and nimbly played, it provides a capital resource for those patrons of the theatre who like an alternative to the Christmas number. Mr. John Hagan is an indefatigable comedian, whose volatility is unbounded. Messrs. H. V. Surrey, Tom Shelford, and Eric Vivian are at their best, and Misses Cora Goffin, Stephanie Stephens, and Doreen Montgomery are charming in their several ways, the performance of the first-named being distinguished by some very clever dancing.

GRAND.—P., Moss' Empires, Ltd.; A. M., Mr. H. J. Crane; Mus. D., Mr. J. H. Russell.—Gertie Gitana is captivating the habitués of this house, and an otherwise strong bill includes such well-approved practitioners as Vasco, the mad musician; Betty Washington, who gives a very dainty turn; Chas. Penrose and Billy Whitlock, gamesome as ever; and Hal Wright, with his rollicking joviality.

EMPIRE.—P., Moss Empires', Ltd.; R. M., Mr. Henry Raymond; Asst. M., Mr. Philip Giles; Mus. D., Mr. J. Clegg.—With Whit Cunliffe to head a capital all-variety bill there is seasonable hilarity at this house. The musician and the comedian contend for the supremacy in Percy Honri, and the palm is awarded according to individual predilections of the audience. Billy Bennett's quaint characteristics capture the house. The Real McKays, May Erne and Erne Chester, and other clever artists diversify the programme.

GAIETY.—P., Mr. B. Kennedy; A. M., Mrs. W. H. Hebden; Mus. D., Mr. Perks.—The wild eccentricities of Jerry and Co. keep the house mirthful. Harold Gray, Wardini, Jasper and Vernon, and Tom Hulme are among others who provide diverting turns.

Boots, The Chemists, 52, New-street; 167, Broad-street; 100-101, Smallbrook-street; 266-283, Gooch-street; 171, Bloomsbury-street; 459, Moseley-road; Colmore Row and Bull Street.

GLASGOW.

THEATRE ROYAL.—M. D., Messrs. F. W. Wyndham and Geo. T. Minshull; B. M., Mr. Harry F. Ashton.—"Chu Chin Chow" continues to attract big crowds here, and Messrs. Grossmith and Laurillard's company give an excellent performance. Miss Madge M'Intosh acts powerfully in the Lily Brayton part, and Mr. Bobby Coombes is an amusing Ali Baba. Miss Phyllis Archibald's fine voice is heard to advantage in her various numbers.

KING'S.—M. D., Messrs. F. W. Wyndham and Geo. T. Minshull; B. M., Mr. Hugh Macfarlane.—"Who's Hooper" has proved a first-rate holiday draw. Mr. Jimmy Godden never misses a point as the man with the lost memory. Since the opening here the cast has been improved by the advent of Miss Bibi Delabere as Nancy. Mr. Leonard Mackay and Miss Evelyn Drew add to the vocal strength of the company.

METROPOLE, LTD.—M. D., Mr. Arthur Jefferson; R. M., Mr. Amand Mascard.—"The Plaything of an Hour" is being presented here by Mr. Oswald Cray's company, and proves to be a strong drama dealing with the drug habit.

COLISEUM.—P., Moss' Empires, Ltd.; R. M., Mr. Louis Lewis.—"Jack and Jill" has caught on enormously here, and this Tiller production is making a big hit, thanks to the comedy provided by George Formby, Tom E. Newell, Tom Morton, &c., and the attractions of Lily Morris as principal boy, Vanwy Chard as principal girl, and the others in an able cast.

PAVILION, LTD.—M., Mr. J. Kirkpatrick; Mus. D., Mr. R. F. Steele.—Tom Edwards, the ventriloquial huntsman, heads the bill here with an enjoyable show, ably assisted by Alice Melville and Jack Edwards. The Royal Breconians give their vocal scena, which is of special merit. Little Miss Mary is a smart wire performer; Sisco plays the concertina well; and Roy Dove gives a comic juggling act Maclaine of Lochbuie, M.C., has some most enjoyable patter, Fred Laurie in a vocal, dancing, and juggling turn shows his versatility.

ALHAMBRA, LTD.—M. D., Sir Alfred Butt; G. M., Mr. E. W. Crossley Taylor; Mus. D., Mr. Howard Croft.—The Wylie-Tate pantomime, "Cinderella," is proving a veritable feast to crowded houses here, thanks to Harry Weldon, Florence Wray, Bert Errol, Lily St. John, and the other members of a strong company.

PRINCESS'S.—P., Mr. Rich Waldon; M., Mr. Hugh Murdoch.—Mr. Waldon's successful pantomime "Tom Thumb" continues its bright career. The fun principally originates from Mr. Len Jackson, who is ably assisted by a talented company. As principal boy and girl, Dorothy Venton and Mabel Marks are dashing and accomplished; while in a Scotch comedy part Stella French has shown herself to be a young comedienne of exceptional promise.

EMPIRE.—P., Moss' Empires, Ltd.; R. M., Captain E. Neptune Blood; M. D., Mr. Henry Farmer.—Stanley Kirkby and Harry Hudson, in harmony and humour; Cornalla and Eddie, in their "Jess 'Em and Miss 'Em" skit; Willie James and the Doran Sisters in an artistic vocal and dancing scena; the O'Mega Trio of equilibrists; George Bolton, who entertains at the piano; the Flemings, in hand-to-hand balancing; and Lune and Shaw, who are successful in a character comedy act.

OLYMPIA, LTD.—L., Artists' Agency, Ltd.; M., Mr. David Bowie; Mus. D., Mr. John Henderson.—Harry McKelvie's successful pantomime, "Handy Andy," is drawing great crowds here.

Boots, The Chemists, 101-105, Sauchiehall-street.

LIVERPOOL.

ROYAL COURT.—M. D., Mr. F. Wyndham; A. M., Mr. Arthur Lawrence; Mus. D., Mr. Jullien H. Wilson.—The pantomime "Humpty Dumpty" gives promise of being a big success, for crowded houses are in evidence, and very cordial greetings bestowed upon the principals, Miss Florence Helm, Miss Lila Wood, George Jackley, Scotch Kelly, the Sparkling Mozelles, and Mr. Ray Holgate.

SHAKESPEARE.—L. & M., Mr. W. W. Kelly; M., Mr. Herbert M. King; Mus. D., Mr. Bertram Brawley.—The hold which grand opera has on Liverpool is surprising, for there are crowded houses nightly at this popular resort to enjoy the good value for money given by the H. B. Phillips' Company. The current week's programme contains "Hansel and Gretel," Humperdinck's delightful fairy story, which has earned great favour; "Carmen," "Faust," "Maritana," "Tales of Hoffmann," "Cavalleria Rusticana," and "Pagliacci."

PLAYHOUSE.—P., Liverpool Repertory Co., Ltd.; L. & M., Mr. A. S. Pigott; Mus. D., Mr. Joseph Smith.—"The Christmas Party" is an afternoon's entertainment for children, who are attending in large numbers to enjoy what is a really good show. "A Message from Mars," played in the evenings, also enjoys much patronage.

EMPIRE.—P., Moss' Empires, Ltd.; R. M., Mr. George Manners; Mus. D., Mr. A. Workman.—Top of the bill is Robb Wilton, who, along with his gifted wife, Miss Florence Palmer, has a sketch which keeps everybody in shouts of laughter; Jay Whidden, the versatile violinist, vocalist and pianist, provides a much appreciated turn; "A Joy Ride" is the title of a clever sketch, presented by Hayman and Franklyn; Ben Beyer, the well-known "tramp" comedy cyclist, who has returned from America, seems to be funnier than ever; Gwyn Thomas is a Welsh boy with remarkable vocal powers; and others in the list are the Four Mackwells, novelty gymnasts; and Mme. Dalmere's Table Circus.

OLYMPIA.—P., Moss' Empires, Ltd.; R. M., Mr. A. O. Walker; Mus. D., Mr. Albert Moore.—The Wylie-Tate pantomime, "Jack and the Beanstalk," has now settled down into its stride, with the result that vast audiences are hastening to see it, for they evidently recognise the fact that it is something unusually good.

HIPPODROME.—M. D., Mr. Charles Gulliver; M. & L., Mr. E. W. James; Mus. D., Mr. Frank Stokes.—Here Robert Courtneidge's new musical comedy, "Too Many Girls," has jumped into immediate success, and crowded audiences are thoroughly enjoying the really brilliant show.

ROTUNDA.—M., Mr. M. Montgomery; A. M., Mr. Fred Coles; Mus. D., Mr. George Dibbert.—This week pantomime has given way to variety, and included in an attractive bill are the Record Quartette of banjoists; Frank Cass, comedian; Dudley and Walker, comedians; Rosie and M. Dubin, with vocal act; La Belle Nello, in speciality act; Gloriana, concertinist; Bessie Brenne and Walter Brard; and Charles Stephens, comedian.

PAVILION.—P., Messrs. W. H. Broadhead & Son; R. M., Mr. Edward M. Hamilton; Mus. D., Mr. Harry Walker.—An excellent variety programme here includes Cecil Lyle and company, with smart illusions; Paul Roly's Accordian Ensemble, who provide a neat nautical scena; Horsa and De Lil, with vocal gymnastic novelty; the Three Avenue Girls, in dancing and acrobatic work; Ada Fawn, comedienne; Four Charltons, gymnasts; Jimmy Pullin, comedian; and Bob Anderson and his pony.

LYRIC.—L., Liverpool Lyric Theatre Co., Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Henry C. Arnold; Mus. D., Mr. Cleaver Howard.—Charm's Enterprises are presenting "Babes in the Wood" pantomime, in which are prominent Edie Day (Robin Hood), Agnes Murray (Maid Marian), Connor and Delmore (comedians), and James E. Hines (Baron).

Boots, The Chemists, Boots' Corner, Church-street; 11-13, London-road; 1, Leece-street; 203, Scotland-road; 8, West Derby-road; 235, Park-road; 113, Lodge-lane; 79, Wavertree-road; Prudential-buildings, Dale-street; 45 to 47, Lord-street.

MANCHESTER.

GAIETY.—P., Miss A. E. F. Horniman; G. M., Mr. W. Roberts-Marshall.—Commencing on Boxing Day, for evening performances until further notice (the stage is occupied during the afternoons by "Through the Green Door"), the New Shakespeare Company put on here a magnificent production of "The Merry Wives of Windsor," by arrangement with the joint committee of the Shakespeare National Theatre and the Governors of the Shakespeare Memorial Theatre, Stratford-on-Avon. Every consideration for effect has been given by the producer, Mr. W. Bridges-Adams, and throughout the sixteen scenes employed in the action the atmosphere of the play is admirably maintained. Several players in the cast have high local reputations, notably Mrs. A. B. Tapping, who is capital as Mistress Quickly, and Mr. William Calvert, who has every qualification of experience and adaptability for the role of Sir John Falstaff. Lively and enjoyable impersonations of Mistress Ford and Mistress Page are given by Miss Dorothy Green and Miss Constance Pelissier; while Ford and Page are ably contrasted by Messrs. Baliol Holloway and Frederick Annerley; and amusing performances are added by Mr Orlando Barnett as Shallow, Mr. Henry Kendall as Fenton, Mr. Ernest Thesiger as Slender, Mr. C. F. Hannam Clark as the Welsh parson, Adams, Mr. H. de Lange as Dr. Caius, and the trio of henchmen, Bardolph, Pistol, and Nym, by Messrs. Cecil G. Calvert, Chris. Walker, and John Maclean, Miss Gwen Richardson being an attractive Anne

ARDWICK EMPIRE.—M. D., Sir Oswald Stoll; A. M., Mr. A. C. Duncan.—The popular favourites, Beatie and Babs, are scoring heavily here in their latest successes; Tex McLeod, spinning ropes and yarns, provides a novel and entertaining act; Frank H. Fox, burlesque comedian, also makes good; while other pleasing and clever items are provided by Victor Andre, Jean Andrews, the Carpathi Duo, and Terry Wilson.

GRAND JUNCTION THEATRE.—P., Messrs. Broadhead and Son; A. M., Mr. Wm. L. Grainger; R. M., Mr. H. Hearn.—Mr. Arthur Clarance has a good show here this week in "Goody Two Shoes," with a powerful company, including himself, Pattie St. Clair, Harry Daniels, Ivy Gallard, and specialities.

ROYAL OSBORNE THEATRE.—P., Messrs. Broadhead and Son; A. M., Mr. Jas. Brearley.—Mr. Fred le Cren's pantomime, "The Yellow Dwarf," is doing good business here. The prominent players are Adah and Harry le Cren and Ted and Fred Oxo, and among the specialities are four clever Nautch dancers.

FROM THE PROVINCES.

NOTES AND NEWS OF TOURING PLAYS.

ABERDEEN.

H.M. THEATRE.—P., Robert Arthur Theatres Co.; A. M., Mr. H. Adair Nelson.—Fourth week of pantomime, "The House that Jack Built."

TIVOLI.—P., Tivoli, Aberdeen, Ltd.; A. M., Mr. Geo. Neill.—Mooney and Holbein, Eric Randolph; Hillard, card manipulator; Zarmo and Claude, comedy jugglers; Langley Brothers, bar artists; The Romanescas, musicians; and pictures.

Boots, The Chemists, 141, Union-street.

ACCRINGTON.

GRAND THEATRE.—P., The Victory Theatres, Ltd.; R. M., Mr. Fred W. Green; Mus. D., Mr. Geo. Haworth.—Mr. Chas. Ed. Clarkson presents the pantomime, "Babes in the Wood," here to capacity houses. The production is exceedingly well staged, and the dresses elaborate. Miss Florence Eden as Robin Hood makes a dashing leading boy. Miss Billy Rudge charms everyone as Maid Marion, and Miss Beattie Rudge is a capital Will Scarlet. The babes are excellent as played by Bessie and Lily Pearl. Mr. Bert Thomas works hard as the Baron, and Leon and Barr, Charles Regan, and the Chandons lend valuable support.

NEW HIPPODROME.—G. M., Mr. J. Leo. Connor; Mus. D., Mr. Jas. Taylor.—Mr. William Pardoe presents the pantomime, "Cinderella," here, and a crowded house witnessed the opening. Miss Lottie Holland is the principal boy, and is seen to great advantage. Miss Dorothy Kemp sings sweetly as Cinders. Rolando Martin is the chief merrymaker as Scoots, and Herbert Lemley, Little Billy, Miss Lola Milton, and Chrissie Bennett are worthy of note.

Boots, The Chemists, 89-91, Blackburn-road.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.

ROYAL.—P. and M., Mr. Chas. Revill; A. M., Mr. Chas. Revill, Jun.; B. Sec., Mr. Jno. Revill.—Messrs. Curwen and Beaumont's touring company is producing the pantomime "Dick Whittington" here this week. The principals are Elsie Bartlett as Dick, Ruth Yvonne as Alice, Bella Moody as the Dame, Harry Curwen as Idle Jack with specialities, The Dancing Rays, Dorothy Ind, Peggy Gordon, May Morley, Knoto, Angus Adams, and Stanley Ratcliffe.

EMPIRE HIPPODROME.—P., W. H. Broadhead and Son; G M. Mr H Winstanley; A. M., Mr. Jno. Boyle.—Mr. Andie Caine's company are presenting here the pantomime "Little Red Riding Hood," the cast including Miss Joan Deering as Boy Blue, Miss Renie Wright as Miss Muffett. Bobbie Graham as Simple Simon, and Andie Caine as Mother Hubbard, as principal funmakers in the cast. Other artists who contribute to the success are Arthur Lawrence as Lupus, the wicked wolf; Miss Brenda White, as Fairy Bluebell; Ernest A Moore, as Baron Broadlands; Bob and Dotty, as Biffem and Basham, a farcical couple; and the Sisters Carey, as Jack and Jill; Little Ada Naylor, as Red Riding Hood, with Miss Renie's Eight Dainty Kiddies; and The Four Casey Girls, and a grand chorus of girls.

PICTURE PAVILION.—P., Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; G. M., Mr. H. Winstanley; A. M., Mr. Geo. R Coates.—Nita Bartlett, in her musical melange; and pictures

Boots, The Chemists, 140, Old-square.

BARROW-IN-FURNESS.

ROYALTY.—L., Mr. Hugh Robertson; M., Mr. T. E. Evans.—Leon Vint's company in "Three Weeks," with Gladys Purnell and Herbert Mansfield in the cast.

TIVOLI.—L., Signor Pepi; M., Mr. G. Johnson.—George Morton, Will Cummings, Alice Gill, George Hylton, Ruselle and Clifford, Charles Henry, and Len Carrodus.

PALACE.—L. & M., Mr. C. Finch-Hatton.—The Golda Quartette, Givano, Paul Freeman, Rich Taylor, and pictures.

BATH.

THEATRE ROYAL.—L. & M., Mr. Arthur Carlton, J.P.; R. M., Mr. Shelford Walsh; Mus. D., Mr. C. W. Hodges.—"Jack and Jill" has caught on unmistakably with the public, and the laughter of the children at the daily matinées, and the enjoyment of their elders at the packed houses at night, recompenses the hard-working company for their successful efforts to amuse.

PALACE.—D., Mr. W. S. Pearce. — The famous Pasquali Bros., equilibrists, head the bill, which also includes Lola, soprano; Phil Bransby, comedian; Billy Housini and company, in their comedy, "H.M.S. Smash'em"; Hettie Hartley, comedienne; and the Four Candy Girls, in an instrumental scena.

Boots, The Chemists, 21-22, Union-street; 56, Southgate-street.

BATLEY.

THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—G. M., Mr. Perci Leonard; Mus. D., Mr. A. Hirst.—Mr. Harry Firth presents the pantomime, "Babes in the Wood."

BELFAST.

GRAND OPERA HOUSE.—M. D., Mr. Fred W. Warden; A. M., Mr. James M. McCann; Mus. D., Mr. S. P. Swanton.—Second week of Mr. Fred W. Warden's Christmas pantomime "Sinbad," which has drawn overflowing audiences since its production on Christmas Eve.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Director of Entertainments, Mr. D. J. Clarke; R. M., Mr. George Dobler; Mus. D., Mr. John C. Fowler.—The star here is the well-known illusionist, Mr. Carl Hertz, who is assisted by Miss Emilie D'Alton and the Nautch dancer, Zora Kayan. The Henry Corner Musical Ensemble Symphonia stage their pleasing act; the Hebrew comedians, Lowenwirth and Cohan, are paying a return visit; St. Just and Higgins are vastly entertaining; and the fine baritone voice of Klinton Shepherd has been heard to advantage. Miss May Craig and company produce their satire, "Such is Life"; and also billed are Alick Lauder, Scottish comedian; Miss Lue Joyce, comedienne; and Hengler Bros., silent comedians.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—L., Mr. Barney Armstrong; G. M., Mr. Vincent Potter; R. M., Mr. E. J. Hart; Mus. D., Mr. J. C. Evans.—The attraction here is Barney Armstrong's funny pantomime "Aladdin." Miss Marie Reeves sustains the title-rôle in dashing style, and Mr. Billy Walters—who is a host in himself—was inimitable as Wishee Washee.

GAIETY THEATRE.—G. M., Mr. Ernest E. Forbes; Mus. D., Mr. Fred Wright.—Vaudeville here by the Stuart Duo, clever vocalists and fine dancers; and Mr. Tom Black, comedian.

CLONARD.—G. M., Mr. George Watterson.—Here are Sanni, in musical speciality; and Selby and Myers, comedians and dancers.

BILSTON.

ROYAL AND HIPPODROME.—P., Mr. Edwin C. Jazon; R. M., Mr. Fred Rothery-Ellis.—Mr. Harry Jones' company appear in "Maritana," "Il Trovatore," "Lucrezia Borgia," and other operas.

BIRKENHEAD.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole P. & M., Mr. W. W. Kelly; A. M., Mr. Hal Lloyd; Mus. D., Mr. Louis Burgess.—Mr. George Dance's No. 1 company, in "The Bing Boys on Broadway," is a strong attraction.

ARGYLE THEATRE.—Sole P. & M., Mr. D. J. Clarke; A. M., Mr. H. O'Neill; Mus. D., Mr. John Whitelock.—Mr. George Mill Scott's protégée, "Who Is She?" described as "a sweet singer of the street," heads an excellent combination. Miss Violet Essex, the popular vocalist, is also a centre of attraction; and prominent successes are scored by Tucker, the singing violinist; the D'Arcy Woolven Trio, in tunes and topicalities; the Great Wieland, humorist; Strength Bros., Gordon Brown. Scot Gibson, and Brown's Royal Bioscope.

HIPPODROME.—Sole P. & M., Mr. D. J. Clarke; A. M., Mr. Chas. Eastwood; Mus D., Mr. John Whitelock.—Ike and Will Scott present their pantomime "Babes in the Wood," in which they appear in the rôles of the Robbers with much éclat. Miss Eva Ellis is an ideal Robin Hood; Miss Minnie Muir is a capital Maid Marion; and Miss Elsie Mason an efficient Will Scarlet.

Boots, The Chemists, 239-241, Grange-road.

BLACKPOOL.

OPERA HOUSE.—R. M., Mr. Jno. R. Huddlestone; A. M., Mr. W. T. Russell; Mus. D., Mr. J. H. Greenhalgh.—J. A. E. Malone's company, presenting "Peter Pan," is here, and the famous fantasy had a great reception. The principal characters are sustained by Lily Maravan as Peter, Ethel Ward as Wendy, and Talbot Homewood as Hook and Mr. Darling.

GRAND.—R. M., Mr. George Harrop; A. M., Mr. T. Hopcutt; Mus. D., Mr. T. Southworth.—Percy Hutchison and Alfred Butt's company in "The Luck of the Navy," is paying a return visit, and this interesting play was warmly welcomed on Monday evening. The chief members of the company are King Fordham, Madge Trenchard, Ernest Imeson, Daphne Riggs, &c.

Boots, The Chemists, 12-18, Market-street, Church-street, and Station-road.

BOLTON.

THEATRE ROYAL.—P., Bolton Theatres and Entertainments Co., Ltd.; M. D., Mr. J. F. Elliston; A. M., Mr. John Moncur; Asst. A. M., Mr. Frank E. Davies.—Messrs. Macdonald and Young present "Going Up."

HIPPODROME.—P., Bolton Theatres and Entertainments Co., Ltd.; M. D., Mr. J. F. Elliston; A. M., Mr. Frank Shelley.—Miss Mary Austin and company in "Maria Marten."

GRAND.—P., Bolton Theatres and Entertainments Co., Ltd.; M. D., Mr. J. F. Elliston; A. M., Mr. Alf. Booth.—Walter Bentley presents "Odds On"; Cornettie; "Making Movies."

Boots, The Chemists, 29-31, Knowsley-street; 139, Derby-street.

BOSCOMBE.

HIPPODROME.—R. M., Mr. Claude E. Marner; Mus. D., Mr. Fred Leake.—Fred Karno's latest revue novelty, "Hustle," heads an excellent programme. First-class variety is furnished by Daisy James, Fred Russell, and Herbert La Martine.

BOURNEMOUTH.

THEATRE ROYAL.—S. P., Messrs. David Allen and Sons; S. L., Mme. Gertrude Mouillot; R. M., Mr. Hubert Dunbar; Mus. D., Mr. Tom Brown.—"Aladdin" continues its successful career, and goes with a rare swing from start to finish.

Boots, The Chemists, 108, Commercial-road; 76-78, Old Christchurch-road; 50, Charminster-road; 302, Holdenhurst-road, Westbourne; 80, Poole-road, West Southbourne; 20, Southbourne-grove, Winton; 105, Wimborne-road.

BRADFORD.

THEATRE ROYAL.—L., Mr. N. Hepworth; M., Mr. W. Havers; Asst. M., Mr. Harry Martell.—Pantomime, "Goody Two-Shoes."

PRINCES.—L., Mr. Francis Laidler; M., Mr. Frank Yearsley.—Pantomime, "Babes in the Wood."

ALHAMBRA.—M. D., Mr. Francis Laidler.—Harry Day presents "Funbeams."

PALACE.—P., Macnaghten Vaudeville Circuit, Ltd.; M., Mr. Ernest Liston.—Alex. Mee, in "At 10 o'clock To-morrow Morning"; Jock Mills, Scotch humorist; George Calver, Myrtle and Pat, Blanche and Boston, Emilie Lay.

Boots, The Chemists, 60-62, Kirkgate.

BRIDLINGTON.

SPA OPERA HOUSE.—M., for the Corporation, Mr. Charles Palmer; Asst. M., Mrs. Prosser.—Miss Hero Hathaway's and Mr. Vivian Baron's repertoire company. Mon., Tues., and Wed., "The Chinese Puzzle"; Thurs. and Fri., "Camille"; Sat., "Moths."

BRIGHTON.

GRAND.—Sole L., Mrs. Kimberley; G. M., Mr. Frank Leston.—"Cinderella," with Miss Ruby Kimberley as the Prince has caught on, and appears to be in for a good run. The elaborate scenery and Cinderella's diamond carriage drawn by Shetland ponies, as well as the musical and humorous portions of the pantomime, are specially attractive.

HIPPODROME.—M. D., Mr. Charles Gulliver; G. M., Mr. W. H. Boardman; A. M., Mr. A. Coote-Leggit; Mus. D., Mr. Ernest Goram.—The Wylie-Tate production, "The Whirl of To-day," is here this week, and is supported by a fine company, including Jack Edge, Ruby Roya, Lilian Coles, and others.

THEATRE ROYAL.—M., Mr. Lawson Lambert.—The merry production, "Kissing Time," is a huge success here. Mr. George Dance's company includes talented artists and fine chorus, and the representation is excellent.

PALACE PIER THEATRE.—M., Mr. J. W. Cordiner.—Mr. K. Heaton Adens' Oriental pantomime, "Forty Thieves," continues a great success here.

WEST PIER THEATRE.—L., Mr. A. W. Scholey.—Mr. Louis Calvert appears here again this week in "Dadlums."

Boots, The Chemists, 64, Church-road, Hove; 204, Church-road, Hove; 88, Preston-road; 17 and 18, James's-street; 19, London-road; 158-162, Western-road.

BURNLEY.

VICTORIA OPERA HOUSE.—P., Victoria Opera House Co., Ltd.; M. D., Mr. W. C. Horner.—The O'Mara Opera Company is paying a return visit.

PALACE.—P., Burnley Palace and Hippodrome Co., Ltd.; R. M., Mr. H. Rintoul.—Ernest Hastings, humour and music at the piano; The New Yoy Circus, presented by Alf. and Rosei Barker; Fields and Doreen, the artistic dancing couple; Harold Heath, in eccentric songs and dances; Baxter and St. Welma, in melodious mixture; Harry Frisky, juggler; James Bendon, vocalist and siffleur; Mark Stuart, comedian.

EMPIRE.—P., Burnley Victoria Opera House C., Ltd.; M. D., Mr. W. C. Horner.—Harry Russell presents the pantomime, "Goody Two Shoes."

Boots, The Chemists, 90, St. James-street.

BUXTON.

OPERA HOUSE.—P., The Buxton Gardens Co., Ltd.; Sec. and G. M., Mr. F. A. Hastings;, Mus. D., Mr. G. F. Burgiss.—Jay and Littler's company in "A Temporary Gentleman."

HIPPODROME.—L. and M., Mr. Allan Milton.—Meadows and Bert, novel speciality; Dainty Phyllis, comedienne; pictures, &c.

PICTURE HOUSE.—P., Midland Electric Theatres Co., Ltd.; R. M., Mr. George Taylor.—Continuous exhibition daily.

Boots, The Chemists, 46-50, Spring-gardens.

CAMBRIDGE.

NEW THEATRE.—M. D., Mr. W. B. Redfern, J.P., D.L.; Asst. M., Mr. P. H. Adams; Mus. D., Mr. W. G. Briggs.—George Brydon Phillips' company present the pantomime, "Little Red Riding Hood."

Boots, The Chemists, 31, Petty Cury, and 6, Market-hill.

CANNOCK.

HIPPODROME.—L., Mr. B. Kennedy; M., Mr. H. Elliman; Mus. D., Mr. A. A. Thompson.—Miss L. Bateman and company appear in the plays, "Tainted Goods" and "Forbidden Fruit."

CARDIFF.

NEW THEATRE.—Sole P. & M., Mr. Robert Redford; Mus. D., Mr. Arthur Angle.—Messrs. Milton Bode and Robert Redford's pantomime, "The Babes in the Wood," continues on a successful run. Miss Nora Delany and Miss Alice Norris in the principal rôles, and Mr. Herbert Darnley and Mr. Bert Maddison as chief comedians, are scoring nightly.

EMPIRE.—P., Moss' Empires, Ltd.; A. M., Mr. C. T. Hutchison; Mus. D., Mr. David Griffiths.—Arthur Prince, Shawlene, The Girtons, Ted Charter, Alfred Leonard and Adeline Valery, Mongadors, and Tom Clare.

Boots, The Chemists, 36, Queen-street; 31, Albany-road.

CASTLEFORD.

NEW ROYAL.—P., Exors. of the late Chas. Gadsby; L., Mr. A. E. Gadsby; B. M., Cr. Hy. Masterman, J.P.—Stafford and Woodward's musical comedy, "The Girl in the Taxi," with W. E. Matthews as the Baron, and special dances by Ruby Vernon.

QUEEN'S VARIETIES.—P., Castleford Queen's Theatre Co., Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Will H. Emerson. — Turns here include Anti-Pussyfoot Don, inebriate dog; and Gladwyns, in a musical act.

CHELTENHAM.

THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—L., Mr. Robert Redford; G. M., Mr. H. Oswald Redford; Mus. D., Mr. Horace Teague.—"Little Jack Horner" has now got into its stride. Mr. James Mackenzie is the life of the pantomime as Jimmy Green, Miss Ethel Collyer as Jack, Miss Vera Saunders win golden opinions, and the rest of the company continue good work.

Boots, The Chemists, 129-130, High-street.

CHESTERFIELD.

HIPPODROME.—P., Chesterfield Hippodromes, Ltd.; G. M., Mr. F. J. Welchman.—Harry Joseph presents "Robinson Crusoe."

CORPORATION THEATRE.—J. W. Turner's Opera Company.

Boots, The Chemists, 21, Market-place.

COATBRIDGE.

THEATRE ROYAL.—P., Coatbridge Entertainers, Ltd.; A. M., Mr. W. Sowerby; Mus. D., Miss Frances Heath.—The Five Jocks, in vocal and dancing scena; Bila Boddell, ballad vocalist; De Vere's Dogs; The Braemar Trio, musical speciality; Hector Donald, Scotch comedian; Dave Godfrey, card manipulator; and Hayes and Finch, comedians.

EMPIRE.—P., Coatbridge Picture House, Ltd.; A. M., Mr. Harry Lucas; Mus. D., Mrs. Fraser.—Harry Leaton presents "Blue Beard" pantomime.

CORK.

OPERA HOUSE.—M., Mr. Frank J. Pitt.—The Compton Comedy Company.

CROYDON.

GRAND THEATRE.—L. & M., Mr. Cyril Royce; A. M., Mr. W. J. White; Mus. D., Mr. H. E. J. Nation.—Messrs. Moreton and Heath's pantomime, "Cinderella."

EMPIRE PALACE.—M. D., Mr. Charles Gulliver; M., Mr. Eustace Jay; Mus. D., Mr. H. Chapman.—Ernie Mayne, Edie Veno, Fulgora, Rosie Lloyd, Ray Wallace, Three Jees, Syd Moorhouse, Borneo Gardner, Will Collinson and company in "Papering a House."

Boots, The Chemists, 38, George-street; 42-44, North End.

DARWEN.

HIPPODROME.—P., Messrs. E. & A. Shorrock; Mus. D., Mr. Wm. Yates. — Messrs. Beresford and Pearce present the revue, "Great Scott," written by Charles Baldwin.

DERBY.

GRAND.—P., Theatre of Varieties (Derby), Ltd.—G. M., Mr. Walter Bellian.—Messrs. Grossmith and Laurillard's company enter upon the second week of the great Eastern extravaganza, "Chu Chin Chow."

HIPPODROME.—P., Theatre of Varieties (Derby), Ltd.; R. M., Mr. H. G. Garnham.—Pantomime is again holding the boards here in "Dick Whittington," including Edna Latonne as "Dick," Walter Bishop as "Idle Jack," and Lily Hayes as "Alice."

PALACE.—L. and M., Mr. Edward Avinal.—"Footlight Frolics," a good revue, is the attraction. The Three Walons, Harry Ellis, and Ivy and Hazel are the leading artists.

PAVILION.—P., Strollers Syndicate, Ltd.; R. M., Mr. C. Watkin Knight.—Albert Lyon presents his clever combination of concert artists, The Summits.

Boots, The Chemists, 45-51, St. Peter's-street; 147, London-road; 267, Normanton-road; 15, St. James's-street.

DEVONPORT.

HIPPODROME.—M., Mr. E. E. Harper.—Archie Graham and Scott Cullen, the "K'nuts" of the Army and Navy, are responsible for a splendid bit of light comedy; James Hunter, another light entertainer, has refinement, coupled with sparkling humour; Gaby Revette, in representations of famous paintings, makes the most of a handsome personality; Culpitt, as a magical comedian, cleverly combines the comic with the burlesque; Fasano, the Italian peasant musician, entertains with brilliantly executed old-time numbers; Montfort and May and Summers and Taylor all score on the light comedy side; and Jack Straw, comedian is well received.

DEWSBURY.

THEATRE ROYAL. — P., Northern Theatres Company, Ltd.; R. M., Mr. J. Herbert Asquith; Mus. D., Mr. J. Field.—Messrs. Arthur G. Hart and Jack Harris present the pantomime, "Cinderella."

EMPIRE.—P., Messrs. G. W and G. E. Smith; G. M., Mr. Geo. E. Smith; R. M., Mr. E. J. Jackett; Mus. D., Mr. E. G. Summerfield.—Alfredo, the vagabond violinist; Fred Brezin, Anglo-French entertainer; Ermine and Ainsley, comedy duo; Rose and Budd, entertainers; Mangin and Kerbel, who entertain with jolly songs; Roy Deane, boy comedian; Miller and Canning, in comedy creations.

Boots, The Chemists, 38, Market-place.

DONCASTER.

GRAND.—L., Palace Theatre (Doncaster), Ltd.; R. M., Mr. A. R. Dobney.—Mr. Walter Melville presents "The Female Hun."

PALACE.—P., Palace Theatre (Doncaster), Ltd.; R. M., Mr. J. W. North.—Messrs. Green, Smith, and Sleight present "Fizz!" the revue.

Boots, The Chemists, 70-71, Frenchgate.

DOVER.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Mr. Leonard Mortimer is presenting the play, "Parted."

KING'S HALL.—Pictures; Cecilie and Jazette, instrumentalists.

Boots, The Chemists, 11, Cannon-street.

DUBLIN.

GAIETY.—M., Mr. C. Hyland; Mus. D., Mr. W. S. Nabarro.—"Old King Cole," the merry Xmas pantomime, continues to play to record houses at each performance.

THEATRE ROYAL HIPPODROME.—M., Mr. J. H. Hamilton; Mus. D., Mr. Jno. Moody.—The successful American production, "Me and My Gal," is presented here this week by Lew Lake, the entire production being in the capable hands of Harry M. Vernon.

ABBEY THEATRE.—M., Mr. Lennon Robinson; Mus. D., Dr. J. F. Larchet.—A new fairy play, by Lady Gregory, entitled "The Golden Apple," is due for production here this week.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—L., Mr. B. Armstrong; M., Mr. A. Armstrong; Mus. D., Mr. W. J. Mitchell.—The record pantomime, "Cinderella," continues its most successful run here this week.

QUEEN'S.—M., Mr. C. F. Wright; Mus. D., Mr. S. Levenston.—The popular pantomime, "Jack and the Beanstalk," featuring Messrs. Power and Bendon, the original comedians, runs its successful season here this week.

TIVOLI.—M., Mr. C. M. Jones; Mus. D., Mr. E. J. Taylor.—A good variety bill this week features Jizuka and Partner in "Tricks with a Dash of Comedy." In addition we have Tom E. Mann, Lancashire comedian; the Zestos, comedy club jugglers; the Arraneys, in a comedy act; Carlo and Francetto, comedy illusionists; Dalkeith, comedy cartoonist; Mark Turner, comedian; and Ernest Tilbury, tenor vocalist.

DUNDEE.

KING'S.—P., Dundee Theatres, Ltd.; M. D. & Licensee, Mr. W. Firth; D. & M., Mr. J. H. Oakden; Mus D., Mr. Wm. Hartley.—The leading attraction here is "Thavma," an amazing mystery, invented and presented by Charcot; MacTavish and Hill, in their latest success, "Ring Out Those Bells"; and excellent entertainment is also provided by Rich and Galvin, novelty dancers; Les Latour, pedestal equilibrists; Victor Niblo and his singing, talking, and comedy birds; Will Tyler, sensational cyclist; and Frederick Ealham, in vocal scena, "Suvla Bay."

QUEEN'S.—P., Mr. Arthur Henderson.—West Marle Trio, black-and-white comedians, are very popular here. Pictures complete.

MAIN-STREET THEATRE.—P., Mrs. Burke.—The Dixie Troupe, vocalists and dancers, are appearing here. Pictures complete.

HER MAJESTY'S.—M., Mr. E. Chapman; Mus. D., Mr. Guy Hughes. — This new entertainment house is doing well, the programmes being of a delightfully varied order.

KINNAIRD PICTURE HOUSE. — Lessees, Messrs. Hamilton Bros.; M., Mr. Victor Hamilton; Mus. D., Mr. H. E. Loseby.—Selections by the fine symphony orchestra, grand organ recitals, and pictures.

Boots, The Chemists, 14, Reform-street.

EASTBOURNE.

DEVONSHIRE PARK THEATRE.—Sole Lessees, Messrs. Murray King and Clark; G. M., Mr. Douglas Gordon; A. M., Mr. George B. Godwin.—Macdonald and Young, in conjuction with Robert Courtneidge, present "His Little Widows."

PIER.—M. and S., Mr. H. Owen Taylor.—Mr. Scott Alexander's pantomime, "Dick Whittington."

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—M. D., Mr. Sidney W. Winter; G. M., Mr. Herbert Raymond.—Kit Toms presents her company of comedians in "The Dollar Baby."

DEVONSHIRE PARK.—M. and S., Mr. Edgar Allan Brown.—The Devonshire Park Winter Orchestra; conductor, Emlyn Thomas. On Sunday, Nat Goulding, tenor, and Miss Phyllis Allan, solo violinist. This week, Haydn Wood and Dorothy Court. Douglas Furber presents "Caricature" for a third week.

Boots, The Chemists, 14-16, Sussex-gardens; 6, Seaside.

FOLKESTONE.

PLEASURE GARDENS.—P., Folkestone Pleasure Gardens Co., Ltd.; G. M., Mr. Ewart C. Potter.—Macdonald and Young present "Uncle Sam."

Boots, The Chemists, 12, Rendezvous-st.; 61, High-street.

GAINSBOROUGH.

KING'S THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. Arthur Carlton; R. M., Mr. Stanley Hooper; Mus. D., Mrs. E. E. Leaning. — On Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday Mr. W. H. Glaze's company appeared in "No Place Like Home," and the remainder of the week is occupied by a return visit of Robt. Courtneidge's company in "My Lady Frayle."

Boots, The Chemists, 30, Market-place.

GLOUCESTER.

PALACE THEATRE.—P., Poole's Theatres, Ltd.; M. D., Mr. John R. Poole; Mus. D., Mr. Morrell.—Messrs. Macdonald and Young present the favourite musical play, "Betty."

HIPPODROME.—P., Gloucester Hippodrome Co., Ltd.; Mus. D., Mr. T. Ellis.—Joe Morrison presents the musical comedy revue "The Dream Girl."

Boots, The Chemists, 139, Westgate-st.; 94-95, Northgate-st.

GOOLE.

COLISEUM.—P. & M., Mr. Ben Popplewell; Asst. M., Mr. Eric Popplewell; M. D., Mr. Loo E. Elgar.—Mr. Will Dalton presents the musical comedy burlesque, "Heads or Tails."

GREAT YARMOUTH.

ROYAL.—L., Mr. W. H. Nightingale; Mus. D., Mr. A. S. Wilson.—H. J. Snelson and Queenie Graze present the musical comedy, "Hullo, Baby"

REGENT.—G. M., Mr. G. F. Allen; Mus. D., Mr. C. Holden.—De Wynne Brothers, Thirza Panson, The Two Merrylees.

HIPPODROME.—G. M., Mr. E. W. Nichols; Mus. D., Mr. J. C. Everard.—Miss Alice Raymond in "Egyptaena." Twelve Eastern Maids, Jack Rossi, Betty Ross, Rita Douglas, Eric James, Sydney Smith, Florence Richmond, and "The Five, 'Its It 'Its!"

Boots, The Chemists, 2, Broad-row, King-street, and Theatre Plain.

GREENOCK.

KING'S.—P. and M., Messrs. A. B. and J. J Wright; Mus. D., Mr. James Murchie.—Mr. Fred Collins's all-Scotch pantomime, "Mother Goose," which entered its second and final week here on Monday, is meeting with well-deserved success. Miss Kitty Evelyn as Prince Rupert is alert and sprightly, and wins much favour in the rendering of her songs, especially "California"; Jill is exceptionally well taken by Miss Rita Hutcheson, who dances daintily and sings sweetly; Miss Dossie Baker ably undertook the rôle of Puck, Fairy Contentment is cleverly played by Miss Violet Shelley, and Miss Louie Farrow is good as Will Scarlet. Mr. Harry Farrow as Mother

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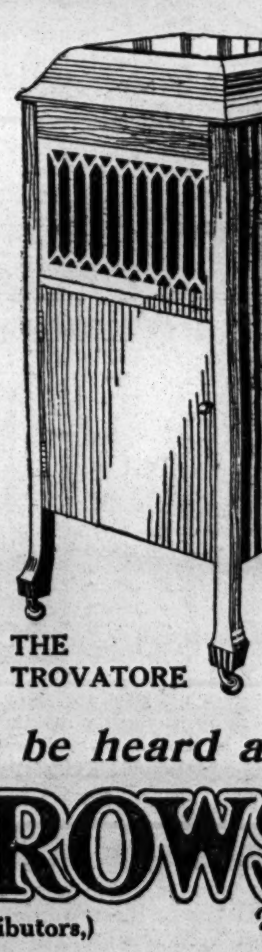

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Boots, The Chemists, 24, Hamilton-street.

GUILDFORD.

ROYAL.—Harold Reading's pantomime, "Jack and Jill," now in its second week, is brimful of good things. Included in the cast are Sadie and Billie, great favourites at this house; Fred Spencer and Harry Rogerson, whose hands are full with clever broad-comedy fooling; while Rosa Charles, Cliff Astley, Claire Stedman, Dolly Macewen, and Harold Rogerson are all happy in their respective rôles. Excellent specialities are introduced by the Six Bing Kids, Lover and Grant, The Gillettes, Bandsman and Beryl Dawson.

HALIFAX.

THEATRE ROYAL.—P., Northern Theatres Co., Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Wm. Robinson; Mus. D., Mr. Edwin James.—Mr. George Dance's Co. in "Yes, Uncle," are paying a return visit.

GRAND. — P., Northern Theatres Co., Ltd.; A. M., Mr. J. Henton; M. D., Mr. L. Crabtree.—The pantomime, "Robinson Crusoe," is presented by Messrs. A. G. Hart and Jack Harris's company. A strong cast includes Bobbie Burns, Nellie Lewis, A. Brandon and Jack Trent, the Lingards, Colvil and Tate, and Six Iris Girls.

PALACE THEATRE. — P., Palace Theatre (Haliax), Ltd.; M., Mr. E. O. Waller; M. D., Mr. Wm. Davidson.—The popular comedian, Nixon Grey, heads the bill. Other strong turns are the Three Ernests, comedy gymnasts; A. Astill, ventriloquist; Zona and Milroy, in comedy act; Robinson and MacLean, in "The Old Cobbler"; and Jack Birchley, "the versatile chap."

Boots, The Chemists, 1, Corn-market.

HANLEY.

ROYAL.—M. D., Mr. Chas. G. Elphinstone; M., Mr. Frank Powis.—"Cinderella" continues to attract phenomenal business.

GRAND.—M. D., Mr. Chas. G. Elphinstone; M., Mr. Albert Bulmer.—The annual circus season of three weeks began this week. Marcelle, the almost human sealion, heads the bill. Also appearing are Oswald Bemand and his marvellous pigeons; Novita and Trent's troupe of comedy dogs; Frank Van Hoven, the Yankee magician; The Bastiens, comedy acrobats; Violet Grey, a musical comedy artist; and pictures.

Boots, The Chemists, 24-26, Piccadilly.

HASTINGS.

GAIETY.—P., Hastings and St. Leonards Theatre Co., Ltd.; M., Mr. H. W. Rowland; R. M., Mr. C. E. Scutt; Mus. D., Mr. Thos. Hilton.—Messrs. Murray King and Clark's successful pantomime, "Cinderella," is a great attraction here, the cast an excellent one, including Mr. Murray King who scores a big success as Marie, and is ably assisted by Mr. George Grogie as Georgina, Mr. Jamie Dallas as Snuffles, Mr. Lewis Gilbert as Baron Baldpate, and Bobbie Britton as Hercules. Miss Jenny Robbins as Dandini is excellent, and Miss Elsie Lytton a dainty and fascinating Cinderella. Miss Dorrie Dene scores as Prince Priceless, also the Four Graces in their acrobatic speciality.

PIER PAVILION.—G. M., Mr. Charles Hawker.—Messrs. Will Gane and Cecil Morley present those popular entertainers The Gipsies this week, under the direction of Mr. Gordon Courtney.

Boots, The Chemists, 17-19, Robertson-street; 61, George-street.

HITCHIN.

BLAKES' THEATRE.—P., Blake Bros. (Theatres), Ltd.; R. M., Mr. Chas. Locke; Mus. D., Mr. Arthur Godber. — Bryan O'Sullivan, in song and story, and pictures.

PLAYHOUSE.—P., Hitchin Playhouse, Ltd.; R. M., Mr. R. A. Brown; Mus. D., Miss M. D. Cutlack.—Barry Jephson and Mlle. Du Barri, the irresponsible chatterers; Lorene and Kidd, in comedy dancing act; and pictures.

HULL.

PALACE.—P., Moss' Empires; M., Mr. J. Barnett; Mus. D., Mr. A. Leader.—The Palace of Orpheus, with Elliott-Savonas as the players, is a great attraction; Wilson Hallet, impersonator; Mlle. Olga Morselli, violinist; the Four Clovelly Girls, club jugglers; Russell Carr, ventriloquist; the Mandos, and Dorane and Wood, complete a good all-round programme.

TIVOLI.—P., Kingston Varieties Co.; M., Mr. G. W. Ashton.—Mlle. Irma Lorraine, the Continental poseuse, and company, form the chief attraction. Amongst a strong variety show a turn which specially appeals to lovers of singing is that of Gwen Thomas, Welsh soprano; the royal conjurer, G. H. Charlton; Lucy Brennan, comedienne; and Jimmy Loft, comedian, are outstanding entertainers.

Boots, The Chemists, 10-12, King Edward-street.

ILFRACOMBE.

ALEXANDRA HALL.—L. & M., Mr. R. Benoke.—Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday evenings Mr. Norman Mandell and Mr. Wilton Warde's Shakespearean Repertoire Company, including Mr. Charles Whitley, in "Othello," "Richelieu," and "The Merchant of Venice."

ILKESTON.

COLISEUM.—L., Mr. Samuel Lloyd; M., Mr. Harry Reeves.—Dan Slater's Enterprises present "The Babes in the Wood."

Boots, The Chemists, 122-124, Bath-street.

IPSWICH.

HIPPODROME.—P., Mr. E. H. Bostock; M., Mr. R. Hendry; Mus. D., Mr. T. Stockham.—Maris and Stella's company in musical comedy entitled "Oh, I."

LYCEUM.—P., Ipswich Lyceum, Ltd.; Lessee, Mr. E. H. Bostock; M., Miss Edith Parkyn; Mus. D., Mr. H. Lewin Taylor.—J. A. E. Malone's company in "Oh, Joy."

Boots, The Chemists, 22, Tavern-street; 52, Westgate-street.

KEIGHLEY.

HIPPODROME.—L., Mr. Francis Laidler; M., Mr. J. Austin Walshaw; Mus. D., Mr. Walter Lupton.—Mr. Harry McKelvie opens the pantomime season here this week with "Dick Whitington and His Cat." The company includes Mr. Syd Walker, the well-known comedian. Miss Mabel Evelyn and Diana Morrow play the parts of principal boy and girl respectively.

Boots, The Chemists, 58, Cavendish-street.

KENDAL.

ST. GEORGE'S THEATRE.—P., Mr. R. F. Chorley; B. M., Mr. J. W. Butler; Mus. D., Mr. T. B. Jackson.—Skinner and Hill, vocalist and harpist; and pictures.

KING'S LYNN.

THEATRE ROYAL.—L., Mr. F. H. Cooper; R. M., Mr. R. Gerald Balls.—Macdonald and Young are here again with "The Maid of the Mountains." The last three nights of this week Walter Saltoun and Aimee Grattan-Clyndes present their No. 1 company in the comedy play, "What is Home Without a Mother?"

Boots, The Chemists, 43-44, High-street.

KETTERING.

COLISEUM.—P., Messrs. Thompson Bros.—Messrs. Bell and Gilbert present "Snapshots."

Boots, The Chemists, 31-32, Market-place.

LANCASTER.

GRAND.—L. & M., Mr. Stanley Rogers.—Leonard Willoughby, Ltd., presents "Fair and Warmer."

Boots, The Chemists, 36 and 38, Penny-st.

LEEK.

GRAND THEATRE AND HIPPODROME.—P., The Leek Theatre Co., Ltd.; L. & G. M., Mr. Allan Milton; R. M., Mr. J. W. Malpass; Mus. D., Miss Agnes Bratt.—Mr. W. H. Kelly's company present "A Royal Divorce," Mr. Alexander Marsh as Napoleon.

SALISBURY PALACE.—P., Mr. Sampson Salt; L. & G. M., Mr. Allan Milton; R. M., Mr. J. W. Malpass.—"I Want to Forget," and other films.

Boots, The Chemists, 17, St. Edward-street, and Sheep Market-street.

LEITH.

ALHAMBRA.—G. M., Mr. Henry Lees; A. M., Mr. James Cousins; Mus. D., Mr. Joseph Smith.—Another change in the pantomime series brings here this week Miss Lola Charm with her new version of "Aladdin." The production is admirably staged, and made exceedingly popular and attractive by Miss Charm as Aladdin, O'Mill and Albert as two policemen, and George Hirste's Widow Twankey. Mr. F. Gillies has the direction of the orchestra.

Boots, The Chemists, 15, Leith-walk.

LONGTON.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—P., Empire Theatre, Ltd.; G. M., Mr. Chas. Bradley; M. D., Mr. T. Hayden Reano.—An attractive programme includes Linga Singh," the royal Indian magician; Horace Barnes, the impromptu rhymester; Denise and Jan; Stanley Deane and Two Le Bergs; Adkin and company, in a ventriloquial scena, "The Scouts' Rally"; and Page's Animated Dolls complete the bill.

Boots, The Chemists, 30-32, Market-street.

LUTON.

GRAND THEATRE.—D., Mr. Graham Falcon; M., Mr. O'Sullivan.—"Eyes of Youth" is being presented, with Miss Betty Fairfax and Mr. Keith Kenneth in the leading roles.

PALACE.—D., Messrs. Lyons & Hart; G. M., Mr. Mark Lorne; Mus. D., Mr. D. R. Purvis.—This hall is making a feature of the celebrated picture, "Daddy Longlegs," and on the variety side are Crasey, Hicks, and Pass, in funny and eccentric dances; Ivor Winter, the little surprise packet; Bros. Lawn, head and hand balancers; and Frances Kinders, comedienne and dancer.

Boots, The Chemists, 27, George-street.

MANCHESTER.

HIPPODROME.—M. D., Sir Oswald Stoll; A. M., Mr. George F. Reynolds; Asst. M., Mr. F. C. Brooks; Advt. M., Mr. D. Forbes Winslow; Mus. D., Mr. Alfred Haines.—An excellent variety programme is provided here, including Mme. Haru Onuki, the Japanese prima donna; "Dream Stars," a delightful musical fantasy, produced by Mr. P. F. Howley, with Paul England, Ivy Proudfoot, Marion Ord, and Nora Roylance in the cast; David Poole; Bromley Carter, in "Reconstruction"; Josephine La Barte; Manuel Vega; and Den and Mark, in physical buffooneries.

HULME HIPPODROME.—P., Messrs. W. H. Broadhead & Son; G. M., Mr. H. Winstanley; R. M., Mr. H. Hearn; Mus. D., Mr. Edward Jones.—The programme here is good all round, including Albert Whelan at the top; the Poluski Brothers; Gus Fowler; Lillie Langtry; Hilda Mostyn; Edgar Curtis; Dave Bryant; and Jeavon and Jena.

LESLIE'S PAVILION. — Sole P., Mr. Harry Leslie; A. M., Mr. Geo. Phillips.—Mr. Frank A. Terry and the Optimists are the attraction here this week.

Boots The Chemists, 15, 17, and 19, St. Ann-street; St. Ann's-square; 43 and 50, Oldham-street; 39, Market-street.

MARGATE.

HIPPODROME.—P., South of England Hippos., Ltd.; R. M., Mr. James Mayall; M. D., Mr. Charles Gulliver; Asst. M., Mr. Sidney Adams.—C. A. Stephenson presents "Dick Whittington."

MIDDLESBROUGH.

GRAND OPERA HOUSE.—L., Mr. J. C. Imeson; Asst. M., Miss M. Morton; Mus. D., Mr. Albert Chidzey.—Mr. Neville Graham's company are presenting the new comic opera, "The Maid of the East."

THEATRE ROYAL.—L. & P., Mr. J. C. Imeson; A. M., Mr. Cecil Imeson. — Mr. Arthur Hinton's company are presenting two stirring plays here this week, viz. "His Indian Wife" and "Moths."

EMPIRE.—P., Empire Palace of Varieties (Middlesbrough), Ltd.; M. D., Mr. William Bastiman; A. M., Mr. Gerald Spencer; Mus. D., Mr. Arthur Wilson.—Mr. Henry Carlton and company are staging the pantomime, "Bluebeard." Mr. Henry Carlton makes a capital Bluebeard, Messrs. Leo Bliss and T. E. Wynne supply genuine good fun as the Baron and Sister Anne, whilst Miss Dorothy B. Lloyd is delightful as Fatima. Clever speciality dances are given by the Russian dancers, Ivan Kotchinsky and M. Du Boisson.

Boots, The Chemists, 17, Corporation-road.

NEATH.

PALACE.—P., Vint's Theatres, Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Leon Vint; R. M., Mr. E. Gilley.—Mr. J. F. Younge presents his latest production, "Dick Whittington." Miss Alma May makes a charming Dick, and Miss Hebe Kneller as Alice an excellent heroine.

GNOLL.—P., The Gnoll Picture and Variety Co., Ltd.; Sec., Mr. Glyn Getting; M., Mrs. L. Trueman; Mus. D., Mr. Geo. E. Hutchins.—The Woodwards introduce their novelty cycling act; Watt Watts, coon delineator; Albert Chevalier, in "My Old Dutch," is drawing good audiences.

Boots, The Chemists, 56, Wind-street.

NEWPORT.

EMPIRE.—P., Moss' Empires, Ltd.; M. D., Mr. R. H. Gillespie; A. M., Mr. J. H. Milburn.—Elgar Hudson Quartette; Leslie Stanelli, Edgar McLean's dancers; Vera Caine, the British athletic girl; Harry Barclay, comedian; Maggie Benson, at the piano; Nicol and Martin, cyclists.

Boots, The Chemists, 13, Commercial-street.

NORTHAMPTON.

NEW THEATRE.—M. D., Mr. Walter T. Simmons; M. & Sec., Mr. Percy H. Gallagher; Mus. D., Mr. Laurie Owen.—W. T. Ellwanger presents the Coloured Aristocrats, in a musical scena, "The Deacon's Wedding"; Buff and Franklin appear in a variety mélange; Joe and Betty Binns, in a spirited comical musical turn; the Labas Duo, comical tumblers, are smart; Alcide Capitaine, a clever gymnast; Millie Maude, &c.

Boots, The Chemists, 6, Gold-st.

NORTH SHIELDS.

THEATRE ROYAL.—L. & M., Mr. Stanley Rogers; G. M., Mr. Horace Lee; M. D., Mr. Charles Turner.—Messrs. Arthur's company in "Joy-Days."

BORO' THEATRE.—P. & M., Messrs. Thompson and Collins; G. M., Mr. G. F. Hill; R. M., Mr. I. F. Heslop; M. D., Mr. Wm. Ternent.—David and Marie Esme, in musical selections; Lieut. Gordon, with Nosey, in "Court-martialled." and pictures.

Boots, The Chemists, 15-17, Saville-st.

NORWICH.

THEATRE ROYAL.—L., Messrs. Bostock & Fitt; M., Mr. Hy. Furnival.—Geo. Dance's company in "Yes, Uncle."

HIPPODROME.—P., Messrs. Bostock & Fitt.—Varieties, Harcourt and Freshwaters, in "Devilled Chicken"; Joseph Cheetham, The Brandons, Winter and Bunny, Elsie Gregory, Chas. F. Hill, The Carons.

ELECTRIC CINEMA THEATRE.—P., F. H. Cooper & Co.; M., Mr. Will Smith.—Varieties, Claire Colwyn and Reggie Irving, W. P. Wentley.

THATCHED PICTURE THEATRE.—P., Mr. J. O. Bond.—Varieties, Phyllis and Giles.

Boots, The Chemists, 38, London-st., Brigg-st.; 6, Goat-lane.

NUNEATON.

HIPPODROME.—P., United Electric Theatres, Ltd.; R. M., Mr. H. R. Lynn; Mus. D., Mr. C. Parsons.—Maud Warburton and Wilson Howard's company in "The Silent House Mystery."

Boots, The Chemists, 11, Market-place.

OLDHAM.

GRAND.—P., Oldham Empire Theatre of Varieties, Ltd.; G. M., Mr. E. Dottridge; A. M., Mr. Harry Kilrow. — The Royal Carl Rosa Opera Company opened on Monday evening in "Tannhauser." Mr. William Bolland sings well as Tannhauser; and Miss Beatrice Miranda is delightful as Elizabeth. Miss Eva Turner as Venus and Miss Dorothy L. Tayler as the Shepherd Boy, are excellent. Mr. Arthur Winckworth uses his splendid voice with effect as the Landgrave; and Mr. Hebden Forster makes a fine Wolfram. Mr. Wil[illegible] and Mr. Albert Chapman as Biterolf, Mr. Robert Brookes as Henry, and Mr. Fred Lewis as Reinmar also do well.

PALACE.—P., The Oldham Empire Theatre of Varieties Co., Ltd.; G. M., Mr. E. Dottridge; A. M., Mr. E. Sharrocks.—Hedges Bros. and Jacobson, the pioneers of rag-time, top the bill, and also here are E. D. Nicholls and Co., who present the patriotic episode, "Saving His Bacon." The Havanna Troupe, in an excellent comedy tumbling act; Miss Pop Carson, male impersonator; Bros. Mullaney, in song, dance, and jokes; Chris. Kenny, a novelty entertainer; Jack Kellino, musical comedian; and the Palace pictures.

ROYAL.—P., The Oldham Empire Theatre of Varieties Co., Ltd.; G. M., Mr. E. Dottridge; A. M., Mr. H. Harriss.—Mr. Denville presents "One Law for Both," with Miss Beatrice Anderson as Ethel Gloade.

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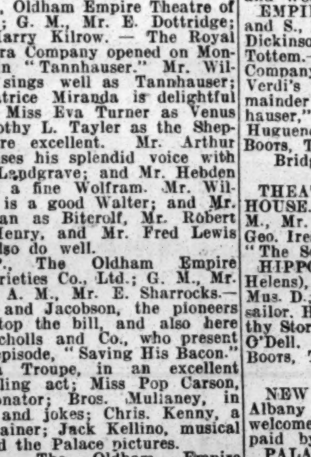

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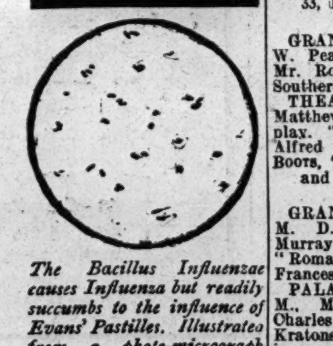

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COLOSSEUM.—G. M., Mr. W. Dobie.—This week, Marcus, the explorer ventriloquist; Hart and O'Brien, contralto and the Canadian Johnny; Fenton Bros., in a musical speciality; Eddie Brown, in an upside-down act; and pictures.

Boots, The Chemists, 40-42, Mumps; 28, Market-place.

OSWESTRY.

KING'S THEATRE.—P., Mrs. Wally George; M., Mr. W. George; M. D., Miss May Robinson.—Mr. Lodge-Percy presents "It's a Long Way No Longer," "Under Two Flags," and "Shame."

Boots, The Chemists, 5, Church-street.

OXFORD.

NEW THEATRE.—P., Oxford Theatre Co., Ltd.; M. and S., Mr. S. C. Dorrill; Asst. M., Mr. W. F. Smith; Mus. D., Mr. C. F. Trevor.—Mr. Robert Courtneidge's company is here on a return visit with the popular musical comedy, "The Arcadians." The excellent all-round cast includes: C. Maud Allen, as Sombra; Harold Clemence, as Simplicitas; Tilly Foulds, as Mrs. Smith; and Fred Evison, in his inimitable portrayal of Peter Doody.

Boots, The Chemists, 1, Queen-street and 120, St. Aldates, Carfax.

PAISLEY.

THEATRE.—S. P., Mr. E. H. Bostock; M., Mr. Harry W. Pinchon; Mus. D., Mr. Bert W. Stephens.—Mr. Harry McKelvie presents the pantomime, "Dick Whittington."

RINK PICTURE AND VARIETY PALACE.—S. P., Mr. E. H. Bostock; M., Mr. D. W. Reid; Mus. D., Mr. Felix Hamilton.—Ryan and Raymond, the Glenns, Jennion's Mannikins, and pictures.

PENTRE.

GRAND.—P. and M., Mr. W. E. Willis; Mus. D., Mr. Fred French.—Mr. Charles Beaumont presents his latest musical comedy revue, "Follow the Girls."

PETERBOROUGH.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole L. & M., Mr. J. A. Campbell; A. M., Mr. J. H. Stevenson.—This week we have Leolyn Hart's company in the pantomime, "Dick Whittington."

HIPPODROME.—M., Mr. F. W. Hawkins.—Camp and Critic, in "The Waxworks," Harding and Siss, Fred Brand, Sisters Billington, "Water Nymphs," Alec Fredson, The Aerials.

Boots, The Chemists, 43, Narrow-street; 16-18, Westgate; 8, Market-place.

RAMSGATE.

PALACE THEATRE (Under the direction of Lessee, Mrs. A. Reeve-Sanger).—A. M., Mr. H. M. Harcourt; Mus. D., Mr. A. Williamson.—"Our Mr. Hepplewhite," a delightfully amusing production, with Mr. Eric Maturn in the title-rôle, is this week's attraction. The clever company includes also Miss Grettie Yates and Miss Haidee Gunn.

Boots, The Chemists, 20-24, Harbour-st.

READING.

PALACE.—M., Mrs. Simmons; M. D., Mr. W. T. Simmons; Mus. D., Mr. W. Morgan.—Johnson Clark, Wyn and Ivy, George Prince, Langford and Ella Trio, Bobby Thornton, Walter Wager, Jack Williams presents "A Sister to Assist 'Er."

COUNTY.—P. & M., Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton.—Mark Blow presents "Toto."

Boots, The Chemists, 90-91, Broad-street; 2, Duke-street.

REDDITCH.

PALACE.—R. M., Mr. W. Howgate; Mus. D., Mr. F. A. Head.—Messrs. C. A. Stephenson and A. M. Morris present "Cinderella," with Miss Vivien Carter as Cinders.

Boots, The Chemists, 3, Evesham-street.

ROTHERHAM.

HIPPODROME.—P., The Rotherham Hippodrome, Ltd.; G. M., and M. D., Mr. Ernest G. Smith; R. M., Mr. Chas. Danton; Mus. D., Mr. A. E. Breakwell.—G. T. Pattman, the famous organist, is on a return visit. He is ably assisted by Miss Minnie Rigby, the possessor of a charming soprano voice. Other attractions are provided by the Revel Quartette in a refined dancing act; Tina Paynola, mimic; Miss Teddie Le Roy, in male character studies; Scott Saunders, Scotch comedian; and Wood and Ettenoy, comedy acrobats.

EMPIRE.—P., Mr. J. Steeples; G. M. and S., Mr. Fred Shaw; R. M., Mr. J. W. Dickinson; Mus. D., Mr. A. Grafton-Tottem.—The Allington Charsley Opera Company opened on Monday night in Verdi's "Il Trovatore"; and for the remainder of the week "Maritana," "Tannhauser," "Rigoletto," "Carmen," "The Huguenots," will be given.

Boots, The Chemists, 10-12, High-street; 8, Bridgegate.

ST. HELENS.

THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE.—P., St. Helens Theatre, Ltd.; A. M., Mr. Harry E. Johnson; Mus. D., Mr. Geo. Ireson.—George Edwarde's company in "The Southern Maid."

HIPPODROME.—P., Hippodrome (St. Helens), Ltd.; M. and L., Mr. J. B. Lloyd; Mus. D., Mr. Galston.—Bruin and his funny sailor, Harry Leolin, Harvey Brinton, Dorothy Storm, Four Foleys, Charlio, and Frank O'Dell.

Boots, The Chemists, 6-8, Ormskirk-street.

SALISBURY.

NEW THEATRE, LTD. — M. D., Mr. Albany Ward; R. M., Mr. M. Hylton.—A welcome return visit is this week being paid by The Gunners Concert Company.

PALACE THEATRE, LTD.—M. D., Mr. Albany Ward; R. M., Mr. Percy Maitland.—Harry Burns' production, "Making Movies," is the principal attraction here. Maudie and Syd McLloyd, in comedy songs and dances; Walter O'Brien and his piano; Lowell Bros., comedy musicians; Daunton-Shaw troupe, Australian trick cyclists.

Boots, The Chemists, 3, High-street; 29-33, Fisherton-street.

SCARBOROUGH.

GRAND OPERA HOUSE.—M. D., Mr. W. Peaçock; M., Mr. G. H. Hawkins.—Mr. Robert Evett and company in "A Southern Maid."

THEATRE ROYAL.—L. & M., Mr. Matthew Glenville.—The Scottish novelty play, "Annie Laurie," produced by Mr. Alfred Glenville.

Boots, The Chemists, 1, St. Nicholas-street and 18, Newborough.

SOUTHAMPTON.

GRAND.—R. M., Mr. Arthur Weston; M. D., Mr. Warwick Moore.—Messrs. Murray King and Charles Clark present "Romance," the cast including Miss Frances Dillon as Mme. Cavallini.

PALACE.—R. M., Mr. Will Murray; A. M., Mr. Harry Taylor.—Varieties by Charles Cohan, Hebrew comedian; the Kratons, in Hoopland; Moss and Macchah, in a musical and dancing scena; Haydee's Miniature Theatre; Shirley Whyte, the comedy comet; the Quintons, banjo duettists; Josephine Langley, lady ventriloquist; Clark and Ritchie, the messengers of mirth.

HIPPODROME.—R. M., Mr. Harry Yardley; M. D., Mr. Alec Kirby.—Albert de Courville's new production, "Tip Top."

Boots, The Chemists, 84, High-street, Shirley; 97, East-street; 25, Above Bar; 103, St. Mary's-street; 107, Shirley-road; 29, London-road; 155, Bevois-hill.

SOUTHEND-ON-SEA.

HIPPODROME.—M. D., Mr. Chas. Gulliver; R. M., Mr. Geo. F. Thompson; Mus. D., Mr. Chas. H. Meek.—Harry Day presents "On the Wing."

Boots, The Chemists, 130, High-street.

SOUTHPORT.

OPERA HOUSE.—L. & M., Mr. Percy Hutchison; A. M., Mr. Follett Pennell.—Mr. J. Bannister Howard's company in "Cinderella," is doing good business here this week. The title-rôle is played by Miss Alice Belfield, and well supported by Miss Ethel Holden as the Prince, and Miss Tina Frank as Dandini. The comedy is in the able hands of Messrs. Johnny Schofield, G. Asquin, H. Benet, and C. Leverton.

How to be Beautiful.

By MIMOSA.

It is not every woman's good fortune to be endowed by Nature with fine features and a flawless complexion, but nowadays it is possible to make the plainest face attractive, and that, too, in the privacy of one's home, without recourse to beauty specialists, which usually involve expensive treatments and much loss of time. I shall endeavour to show you, in the following lines, how much may be done in this direction by any woman of ordinary intelligence. When facial applications are necessary, use only the pure ingredients just as they come to the chemist himself. Do not allow yourself to be persuaded into buying some cheap ready-made preparation instead. Any chemist will gladly obtain the original concentrated ingredients for you, if you insist, and although he may not have them in stock, you will be well advised to wait while he orders them for you. The improvement in your appearance will be ample compensation for any trouble taken to obtain these simple and harmless beautifiers.

Beauty in Breathing.—A great deal can be done towards brightening the eyes by systematic breathing for ten minutes each morning and evening. Breathe slowly and deeply to the fullest capacity of the lungs. You should stand erect by an open window. The corsets should not be worn during this exercise.

About Shampooing.—Even the best shampoo is somewhat drying, and if the hair is not naturally oily, I suggest that just before the shampoo, you apply olive oil to the scalp, rubbing it into the hair roots vigorously. Then use pure stallax for the shampoo. Dissolve a teaspoonful in a cup of hot water. This will leave the hair very clean, soft and fluffy.

An Instantaneous Beautifier.—Instead of face powder, use a simple lotion made from one ounce of cleminite and four teaspoonfuls of water. This lotion will tone and clear the skin, and acts as a protection against sun and wind. A little applied with the finger-tips instantly gives the skin a delightful "bloomy" appearance. No powder is necessary, and the result lasts all day long under the most trying conditions.

To Permanently Remove Superfluous Hair.—It is a simple matter to remove a downy growth of hair temporarily, but to remove it permanently is quite another matter. It is a pity that it is not more generally known that powdered pheminol may be used for this purpose. Apply it directly to the hair. The recommended treatment is designed not merely to instantly remove the hair, but also to eventually kill the roots entirely. Any chemist should be able to supply you with an ounce of pheminol, which quantity should be sufficient.

The Real Cause of Most Bad Complexions.—It is an accepted fact that no truly beautiful complexion ever came out of jars and bottles, and the longer one uses cosmetics the worse the complexion becomes. Skin, to be healthy, must breathe. It also must expel, through the pores, its share of the body's effete material. Creams and powders clog the pores, interfering both with elimination and breathing. If more women understood this there would be fewer self-ruined complexions. If they would use ordinary mercolised wax instead of cosmetics they would have natural, healthy complexions. This remarkable substance is not absorbed by the skin; its action is just the opposite. The skin repels mercolised wax, and at the same time throws off all imperfections. An exquisite new complexion peeps out, quite free from any appearance of artificiality. Apply nightly like cold cream, for a week or two, washing it off in the morning.

About Hair Tonics.—Each week almost one hears of some wonderful discovery for improving the hair, and although this paragraph may seem a little superfluous, an old-fashioned recipe may come as a welcome change. One thing about it is that it will grow hair, and also prevent it falling out. From your chemist get an original package of boranium, to this add ¼-pint of bay rum, allow it to stand 30 minutes, then add sufficient water to make half a pint. Rub briskly into the scalp with the finger-tips and you will immediate experience that clean tingling sensation which is a sure sign of healthy action.

PALLADIUM.—M. D., Mr. D. J. Clarke; A. M., Mr. R. Singleton.—The star turn is Rossi's Musical Elephants. Other items are: Punchinello; Mme. Delamere's Table Circus; Hengler Bros., silent comedians; Kristo and Renee, comedy jugglers; Troupe Lombards, gymnasts; E. Baisden, the cycling comedian; and Alfred Holt, comedy mimic.

PAVILION.—Sole L., Mr. G. W. Bell; A. M., Mr. J. Thomson.—"What a Lad" revue" is here this week.

Boots, The Chemists, 383-391, Lord-st., and 10-12, Nevill-st.; 2 and 26, Chapel-st.

SOUTH SHIELDS.

THEATRE ROYAL.—L. & M., Mr. J. W. Coulson; A. M., Mr. Wm. C. Hill Black; Mus. D., Mr. C. Whittington.—Messrs. Levy and Cardwell present the pantomime, "The Sleeping Beauty."

EMPIRE THEATRE.—P., South Shields Empire Palace, Ltd.; M. D., Mr. R. Thornton; R. M., Mr. Edwin Winter; Mus. D., Mr. Jos. Campbell.—A variety company includes Cruikshank, the Fool of the Family; Barton and Ashley, in "Money Talks"; The Diving Belles, in "The Mermaid's Cave"; May Henderson, the original dusky comedy queen; Renee and Godfrey, dancers; Jack Craig, comedian; and W. V. Robinson, the Canadian entertainer.

QUEEN'S THEATRE. — P., Borough Theatre Co. (South Shields), Ltd.; R. M., Mr. Geo. W. Hunter, M.C.E.A.; Mus. D., Mr. Jas. Todd.—Sara Melita, the famous vocalist; Strength Brothers, equilibrists; and pictures.

PALACE THEATRE.—P., High Shields Palace Theatre Co., Ltd.; M. D., Mr. R. Thornton; R. M., Mr. John McCoy; Mus. D., Mr. Harry Verd.—Johnnie Dundee, comedian; the Lisles, in an up-to-date act; and pictures.

Boots, The Chemists, 39, King-st.

STIRLING.

ALBERT HALL.—R. M., Mr. Jn. Kennedy.—Mr. J. Bannister Howard presents Jack Arnold's company in pantomime, "Aladdin."

ALHAMBRA.—M. D., Mr. Fred Collins; R. M., Mr. Geo. Paulton; Mus. D., Mr. Jas. Running.—Pharos, magician; Pat Clarke, juggler; the Musical Astleys; Tom Ellis and Co. in "Twelve o'Clock"; McIntosh and Royal, dancers; the Richardsons, vocalists; Mutt and Jeff, comedians.

OLYMPIA.—R. M., Mr. Jack M. Calder; Mus. D., Mr. W. F. Gillies.—The Unity Revue Co. present "Jalousin' Jock."

STOCKTON.

GRAND THEATRE.—P., Alderman J. Batty; M., Mr. W. Batty; M. D., Messrs. Greenfield and Bentley.—Mr. J. F. Franklin and Company's musical extravaganza, "High Steppers."

HIPPODROME.—P., North-E. Entertainments, Ltd.; M., Mr. H. B. Metcalfe; S., Mr. G. V. Stainton; M. D., Mr. P. Ferri.—Mr. Bert Lloyd is presenting the crook sketch, "The Getaway." The other turns are Russell and Durbin, sensation dancers; Violet Nana and Co. in musical mélange; Margaret Winter and Madge Clegg with piano; James and Henry Cowper, comedy jugglers; Alex. Lawson, dancer; and Jack D'Laine, entertainer.

Boots, The Chemists, 104-105, High-street.

SWINDON.

EMPIRE. — P., Wiltshire Entertainments Co., Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Alred Manners; R. M., Mr. Alfred Manners, junr.; Mus. D., Mr. E. P. Monk.—"The Luck of the Navy" is here this week.

Boots, The Chemists, 27-28, Bridge-street.

STOCKPORT.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole O. & M., Mr. Charles Revill; A. M., Mr. Cyril D. Revill; R. M. & Sec., Mr. John Revill.—A. E. Smith's pantomime, "Jack-the-Giant-Killer," with Betty Beryl as Jack, supported by Scott and Grey, Cecil Barnard, and Stanford and Allen.

HIPPODROME.—L., Mr. William Swire; G. M., Mr Harry Barker.—James Kiddie presents his pantomime, "Little Red Riding Hood." The company includes Nancy Gill as Prince Rudolf, Bert Groves as Simple Simon, and Harriet Harcourt in the title-rôle.

Boots, The Chemists, 26, Chapel-st.; 383, 391, Lord-st.

SALFORD.

SALFORD PALACE (late Regent Theatre).—P., Mr. Wm. T. Hill; G. M., Mr. Alan Young; R. M., Mr. A. S. Granson; Asst. M., Mr. Horace Cocks.—Panto., "Aladdin," presented by Carney Cairo.

ROYAL HIPPO.—P., Messrs. Wm. Hy. Broadhead & Son; R. A. M., Mr. Fred Bernardo. — Jazon & Montgomery's panto., "Jack and the Beanstalk."

TONYPANDY.

EMPIRE.—P., Mr. W. E. Willis; R. M., Capt. Willie Willis; Mus. D., Mons. Jules Frascati.—R. Nightingale, Ltd., present the pantomime, "Dick Whittington and His Cat." A powerful company includes the Pender Troupe of Giants.

Boots, The Chemists 121a, Dunraven-street.

TYNEMOUTH.

PALACE THEATRE.—P., The Northland Film Co., Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Charles Elderton; R. M., Mr. Bert Wilson; S. M., Mr. Oliver Turnbull; Mus. D., Mr. W. K. Moore.—Seymour Hicks presents his No. 1 Company in "Broadway Jones," with Mr. Harry Piddock in the titular rôle.

WARRINGTON.

ROYAL COURT.—P., Royal Court Theatre (Warrington), Ltd.; G. M., Mr. H. L. Warburton.—Macdonald and Young present "Soldier Boy."

Boots, The Chemists, 126, Bridge-street; corner of Sankey-street and Bridge-street.

WATFORD.

PALACE THEATRE.—M., Mr. Tom Taylor.—Jack Cumo's pantomime, "Jack and Jill," is being presented to appreciative audiences here this week. The cast is an exceptionally strong one, and includes Midge Wood and Dolly Lang as Jack and Jill.

Boots, The Chemists, 115, High-street.

WESTCLIFF-ON-SEA.

NEW PALACE.—D. & M., Mr. Herbert Jay; A. M., Miss Barbara Allison; Mus. D., Mr. Adam Seebold.—"The Freedom of the Seas."

Boots, The Chemists, 105, Hamlet Court-road.

WEST HARTLEPOOL.

EMPIRE.—P., West Hartlepool Empire Palace, Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Richard Thornton; G. M, Mr. Harry Esden; R. M., Mr. Bert Proud.—Harry Burns presents "Making Movies"; Arthur Croxton, comedian; Melford and Dodd; Gordon and Rica; Haley's Juveniles.

Boots, The Chemists, 51, Lynn-street.

WOLVERHAMPTON.

GRAND THEATRE.—S. L. and M., Mr. E. H. Bull; Mus. D., Mr. Arthur Jackson.—Mr. Frederick G. Lloyd presents "La Poupée," with Stella Gastelle in the title-role.

THEATRE ROYAL.—P., Kimberley's, Ltd.; M. D., Mr. and Mrs. F. G. Kimberley; M., Mr. Edwin T. Kisbey; Mus. D., Mr. Harry Bradley.—Mr. and Mrs. F. G. Kimberley's successful pantomime, "Jack and the Beanstalk," continues for another week.

EMPIRE.—S. L., Sir Walter de Frece; M., Mr. Guy E. Dunning; Mus. D., Mr. B. Sorge.—Lew Lake presents "The Far East," featuring Fred Hastings, William Lorrimer, Alma Green, Billy Amstell, and D. Lewin Mannering.

Boots, The Chemists, 7-8, Queen-street; 82, Chapel Ash.

WREXHAM.

HIPPODROME.—L., Wrexham Entertainments, Ltd.; M. D., Mr. H. D. Moorhouse; G. M., Mr. W. J. Fender. — The revue, "Sanfari Ann," is presented this week by Billy Lee and company.

Boots, The Chemists, 2, Westminster-buildings, Regent-street.

YORK.

THEATRE ROYAL.—L. & M., Mr. Percy Hutchison; A. M., Mr. Henry C. Alty.—Comic Operas, Ltd. (1915), presents "Cinderella."

EMPIRE.—M. D., Mr. William Peacock.—Daly and Healy; Lawrence Wright Ensemble; Roe Hampton, baritone; Harold Owen, comedian; Peggy O'Hara, entertainer; Gerald Cyril, ventriloquist; Clement May.

Boots, The Chemists, 30, Coney-street.

WINDSOR NEW THEATRE ROYAL.

The attraction this week is "The Chinese Puzzle," ably presented by Mr. Charles Macdona's company. An admirable embodiment of the Marquis Chi Lung is presented by Mr. George Mallett. Mr. C. Leveson Lane gives point and finish to the rôle of Paul Marketel. Sir Roger de la Haye has an experienced exponent in Mr. Caspar Middleton. Mr. Chas. Sewell is happy in a diverting portrayal of Armand de Rochecorbon; and the Hon. William Hirst is effectively depicted by Mr. Arthur Rose Price. Miss Mira Kenham is an extremely clever representative of Naomi Melsham, her fine acting doing much for the success of the piece. Good work is also displayed by Miss Florence Tresillian, who endows the part of Victoria Creswell with grace and charm. Miss Bessie Rignold as Lady de la Haye is prominent in some well-acted scenes. Miss Dora Macdona is the personification of vivacity as Aimee de Villeseptier; and Mrs. Melsham is well represented by Miss Stella Leigh.

THE REALM OF MUSIC.

THE MUSICAL DIRECTOR.

ORCHESTRAL NOTES AND NEWS.

MR. CHARLES WYNDHAM.

Mr. Charles Wyndham, the conductor of the Nottingham Empire, was born in Los Angeles, California, in 1882, and first appeared on the stage at the age of five. He came to England with his parents when he was 15, and received his education at a public school and university. Intended for a medical career, he studied medicine at Aberdeen University, but gave it up to go on the stage. Mr. Wyndham first appeared in drama, but having musical tastes and inclinations, he later went into musical comedy and played juvenile lead parts in "Florodora," "Miss Hook of Holland," "San Toy," and "Chinese Honeymoon."

Through the sudden illness of the musical director during the "Florodora" tour, Mr. Wyndham took his place at short notice, and being a capable pianist, drifted into this branch of the business. He then joined a vocal quartette and toured America, South Africa, Australia, India, and the Straits Settlements. It so happened that he was on the Cunard liner Carpathia when the survivors of the ill-fated Titanic were picked up.

When the war broke out Mr. Wyndham was conducting opera in Buda Pesth, Hungary, and had considerable difficulty in getting back to England. A year or two prior to this he appeared in the revue, "America," at the New York Hippodrome, which possesses the largest stage in the world. After coming to England again in 1914 Mr. Wyndham joined the Forces, but was invalided out in 1915, and after touring with revue, was seen by Mr. Frank Allen and offered conductorship of the Empire, Nottingham, where he has been engaged for the past eighteen months.

BRITISH COMPOSERS' WORKS.

Sir Oswald Stoll, having lent his influential helping hand to the Patrons' Fund administrators' scheme for the introduction of British composers' works to the public, is not the one to draw back before something definite has been accomplished. Week by week the thousands in the Coliseum audiences listen to a new piece of native composition, and when they have got over their surprise at the fact that their countrymen are writing music that may be understood by the man in the street, signify their appreciation in no uncertain way.

Last week Mr. Alfred Pratt's overture, "Ballabili," was the chosen work. The Italian title means tunes that are danceable; and, in fact, the overture is made up of themes reminiscent of the ballet, which are treated in symphonic form. First comes a vivacious bolero. A valse, vying in grace and seduction with old-time Viennese importations, but without their excessive sentimentality, follows, giving place to a galop which throbs and tingles with life. The coda, short and lively, is based on all the themes. "Ballabili" makes a very fresh and pleasing impression; and Mr. Pratt, who was a pupil of Sir C. V. Stanford at the Royal College of Music, does honour to his "school" with his deft and polished scoring. The composer conducting, the overture was cleverly played by the Coliseum orchestra and warmly received.

CONCERTS OF THE WEEK.

SATURDAY POPULARS.

Central Hall Saturday night audiences do not often get Mr. Herbert Cave to sing for them, so they made the most of him last week. They doubled, and threatened to treble-encore him, until time and the inexorable number-changing gentleman stepped in and forbade. Miss Norah Scott was the contralto of the evening. She has a deep voice of the quality with the thrill in it, and she found a song to suit her exactly in that wistful longing-for-home ballad, "The Hills of Donegal." Miss Florence Mellors, sure of her welcome at the Central, came with her clear, bright soprano, in fine fettle. Two of her contributions were numbers from Arthur Meale's "Hearth and Home" cycle, one of them, the gay and rhythmical "Dancing on the Green," always a favourite. The fourth member of the singing quartette was Mr. Lawrence Folker, who has a bass-baritone of fine timbre, and uses it like an artist, with a keen sense of dramatic effect. He made a vivid thing of Allitsen's "Lute Player." Miss Evangeline Livens, of the beautiful tone and the delightfully clean touch in rapid scale passages, was the pianist; and Miss Margaret Holloway, who showed brilliant qualities in the well-known "Hejre Kati," wa sthe violinist. The third instrumental soloist, Mr. J. A. Meale, played a fascinating "Fountain Reverie," by a 'young British" composer, Percy Fletcher, for one of his always appreciated organ pieces.

As usual, the "entertainers" part of the programme was strong. Mr. Selwyn Driver's Scotch and Yankee stories would take a great deal of beating, and he has a first-rate number in his skit on "publishers' concerts." The suggestion that the Stores should engage popular vocalists to push the sale of their wares much tickled the risibilities of the audience. Mr. Lionel King, conjuring humorist and humorsome conjurer, another favourite at Westminster, was the author of sundry "moments in magic," which seemed all too short.

KINGSWAY HALL.

At Kingsway Hall the list of artists was headed by Miss Doris Vane. She had such a big ovation after her singing of Stanford's fine "Carol of Bells," that the "no encores" rule in the second half of the programme went by the board. It was no wonder, for her voice rang sweet and true, and she put all her English heart into the true English words. Miss Muriel Mitchell, another singer of rich temperament, made her best success with Coningsby Clarke's "Reaping," and, of course, the organ obligato, played by Mr. Frank Idle, was just what the audience wanted to complete their enjoyment of one of their favourite "semi-religious" ballads. The tenor, Mr Arthur Kellet, has a very pleasing voice, and nobody knows better than he the value of a pure pianissimo ending to a sentimental song. The warmth of the applause testified more than once to the soundness of his judgment in this respect. The baritone—and a good one—was Mr. Falkner Lee. As usual, Mr. Idle's organ solos went down splendidly with the discriminating Kingsway Hall-ites. The pianist of the occasion, Mr. Leo Livens, gave the amateurs a lesson by example on the right way to play some half-dozen of his own characteristic little pieces, which—as those same amateurs will find when they try them—are by no means as easy as they sound under his fingers. There was a fine "reciter" in Mr. Charles Lidington, who is equally effective in serious or laughable things; and a most entertaining "entertainer" in Mr. Rupert O'Hea, whose comical confidences anent eggs for his tea sent the audience off all smiles.

SONGS AND SINGERS.

B. Feldman and Co.

Sadie Morris, in "Jack and the Beanstalk" at the Metropole, Manchester, is scoring heavily with "If You're Irish Come Into the Parlour" and "That Wonderful Mother of Mine."

Dolsey Cariello has chosen two effective numbers from the Arthur-street catalogue in "For One Sweet Day" and "Beautiful Ohio." Both songs are handled artistically, and meet with generous applause.

Johnny Schofield (junior) wires from Theatre Royal, Southport: "'Roses and Radishes' huge success here; talk of the town."

Ethel Colyer, principal boy in "Jack Horner" pantomime, writes from the Opera House, Cheltenham, that she is delighted with "Big Chief Sandy Mac," a number which goes with a fine swing. Miss Colyer is most successful in this song.

Will Judge reports as follows from the Theatre Royal, Rochdale: "'Don't Dilly Dally' and 'Oh, Helen' are proving real winners for me here as Dame and principal comedian.' Miss Orchard is also doing exceedingly well with "Have a Smile,' and the same artist is taking double encores along with Marie Lumberg (principal boy) for a finished rendering of "Till We Meet Again" in duet form.

Blanche Mayne ("Jack and the Beanstalk") sends a cheery message from Theatre Royal, Wolverhampton, to the effect that she is working "How Ya Gonna Keep 'em Down on the Farm" and scoring a tremendous success.

In Bill Ward and Brown's "Red Riding Hood" panto., Madge Lindsay (of the Three Macomas) makes a really big hit in "Have a Smile."

Jenny Robins, playing principal boy, is scoring an immense success with "How Ya Gonna Keep 'em Down on the Farm?" a number she works with characteristic sprightliness.

Herman Darewski Co.

The latest acquisition of the go-ahead Darewski firm is that of the exclusive representation of the famous American music publishing house of Irving Berlin, Inc., of New York. Among the many big winners of this firm in the States, just now, may be specially mentioned "I've Got My Captain Working for Me Now" (already sung by Tucker, on the halls, and by Daisy Wood in the Theatre Royal, Manchester, pantomime), "Nobody Knows (and Nobody Seems to Care)" and "You'd be Surprised," of which, and others from the same extensive catalogue, much will be heard in this country in the near future.

"Where Do Flies Go in the Winter Time?" is an enormous comedy chorus hit in pantomime everywhere just now. Among the prominent artists featuring this song may be mentioned Lupino Lane, Shaun Glenville, G. S. Melvin, W. J. Churchill, Alfred Brookes, J. W. Hall, Wee Georgie Wood, Lauri Haberton, George Rapley, Fred Lincoln, Bertie Wright, Syd. Cotterell, Edward Lewis, W. L. Rowland, Len Jackson, Peter Fannan, Freddie Ross, Sisters Cherry, Nat Lewis, Myles Brummell, Rowland Hill, Tommy Banks, Harry Russell, Harry Arthurs, A. G. Spry, Chris Baker, Cissie Pariss, Madge White, Hardy Griffiths, Fred E. Rayne, Reg Bolton, Wal Barker, Jack Barty, Spry and Monti, George Whitby, Corrie and Foote, Jack Cranston, Sidney Dooley, Harry Belmore, Harry East, Freddie Frome, Arthur Rawson, Will Anstee, Bert Earle, Rolando Martin, Charles Regan, Fred Holt, Will Royll, Lynn and Lewe and Jack Gillan, to mention only one-half of the "century" of artists singing it in this season's pantomimes.

"Everything is Peaches Down in Georgia" and "If You Could Care" are two of the year's biggest songs in pantomime, and are featured by an illimitable array of artists, including Ella Retford, Daisy Wood, Nora Delany, Dorothy Ward, Christine Roy, Dorothy Vaughan, Gwladys Haly-Dillon, Gay Tilvaric and others too numerous to particularise.

Very big comedy bits are "Can You Tame Wild Wimmen?" "Thtop Your Thuttering, Thammy," "Who Killed Poor Pussyfoot?" and "Now that the War is Over," which are being specially featured by many of the leading pantomime artists.

Lawrence Wright Music Co.

A visit to the London music halls proves that among star artists, as well as in pantomime, Lawrence Wright numbers are great favourites. Miss Mary Leighton, the famous lyrical soprano, at the Coliseum this week, has a strong repertoire, including the firm's popular numbers, "The Kingdom Within Your Eyes," "For You a Rose, For Me a Memory," and "Egypt, I Am Calling You," which never fail to win rounds of applause.

Miss Doris Ashton, another of the popular sopranos, is also doing very big with Horatio Nicholls' "The Kingdom Within Your Eyes," and at the Empire, Chiswick, this week, it is going better than ever.

Miss Yvonne Granville, the clever French comedienne, opened this week at the Palladium with a new repertoire of numbers which are from the catalogue of the Lawrence Wright Company. Particularly well suited is Miss Granville in "Gay Paree."

"You'll Be Some Wonderful Girl" is still going as big as ever. At the Empire, New Cross, the Two Rascals are delighting audiences with their spirited rendering of it, while Woolmer Young, at the Kilburn Empire, is making a great success with this song.

Mayne and Sheridan still continue their big success with the popular chorus number, "It's a Sad Heart That Never Rejoices."

Leslie Stanelli and Edgar, with their strong repertoire of numbers, including "You'll Be Some Wonderful Girl" and "There's Not Much Left of the Old Home Now," are surpassing all their former successes at the Empire, Newport, this week.

Parker-Charles Music Publishing Co., Ltd.

Syd Moorhouse is achieving great success this week at Croydon Empire with Garadini's "Only a Sweet Old Melody."

Joseph Carter's Ten Dixie Girls are featuring Dorian George and Dorothy Forster's "I Just Want You" in all their engagements. This talented troupe made a very great hit with the song last week at Middlesbrough Opera House. In Charles Clarkson's pantomime, "Babes in the Wood," at Princes Theatre, Blackburn, the outstanding item is "I Just Want You," which Lilian Rainford is singing with great success. Annie Firth reports an excellent reception of the song at Grays Empire.

"'Tis Then Your Spirit Speaks To Mine" (D. Cameron Forrester and G. F. Lewis) was sung at Willesden last week with great success by Lily Whittlesey, who also includes in her repertoire Geo. Jennings' "Memories," Ella Lemon's "Bells at Sunset," Wm. Cramb's "Victory," and Joseph Batten's "The Pathway of Shadows." The latter item has just been recorded by Leonard Lovesey, the popular tenor.

A. W. Blackley's "Reveil d'Amour" is being regularly featured by the fine orchestra at Sherry's (Brighton), Tilley's (Newcastle), and by May Walters' famous Jazz Band, Howard Aynsley's Jazz Band, and the Aynstey Orchestra. "Rosalie" (E. J. Horrex) is played with immense success everywhere by the Æolian String Band, and Arthur Goullet's "Blue Mosque" is an outstanding feature in "Daddlums" (Brighton West Pier). "Daphne" and "Jasmine" (A. Scott-Shaw) are being featured by all the excellent orchestras under the control of A. Hallerton Shaw, and by Arthur Crudge's British Imperial Orchestra. Mr. Crudge—a competent judge—considers them two of the finest items in his repertoire.

"A Last Request" is achieving great popularity at the hands of Albert Lovejoy, a new and talented baritone, and also by Jennie Davies, Evelyn Clair, and W. Rowe Johns. Lilian Jennings is singing with success Albert Parslow's "Light of My Soul." George Chandler's chief feature this week at Oswestry is "King of the Clouds." He is also singing "A Soldier of Fortune" and "The Island Delightful." A. F. Taylor is singing "The Sergeant-Major" with great success.

Eclipse Music Co.

From reports to hand there seems to be little room for doubt that in "I Lost My Heart To You" the above firm have found a winner. Suitable alike for concert and variety audiences, it is certain to make a big appeal. Artists would be well advised to programme this number without delay.

"Home in Wyoming" in the hands of so capable an artist as Daisy Dormer, is proving a veritable triumph. Of all the

(Continued at foot of column 5).

CONCERT ARTISTS' NOTES.

Prospects in the U.S.A.—Advantages of an American Tour—Music and Musical Agents.

Last week we dealt with the concert artists' prospects in our colonies, reserving ourselves to a special article on the U.S.A. Practically all of our leading vaudeville artists have "crossed the herring pond," but few, even of the best, concert artists have made the plunge, doubtless from lack of opportunity, and it is indeed a pity so little co-operation exists between English and American agents. The American concert world is perhaps as crowded with native talent as our own, but there is always the advantage that a "prophet is seldom honoured in his own home," and an exchange would surely be profitable for everybody.

Possibilities of Profit.

"What are the advantages of an American tour?" Apart from the very valuable experiences of world travel, the States to the talented artist hold out unlimited financial possibilities. America has always been dubbed the "land of the almighty dollar," but never in its history has money been so plentiful there as it is to-day.

Everything in America has to be done on a colossal scale, and a "house," with a seating capacity of double that of the average English hall, means double the financial results if it is filled, and, like London, every form of entertainment is now playing to capacity. At the same time, the artist who contemplates accepting a contract, must be prepared for high expenses—nothing is cheaper in America than it is in England to-day, unless it is "talk." As the result of prohibition, and the consequent loss of profits, the hotels and restaurants have increased their prices in an unheard-of proportion, and must be more pleased than annoyed with the "dry" state of affairs, since the abstainers, as well as the "soakers" of old, are now alike penalised by sky-high prices. Clothing and all necessities are most expensive, and the wardrobe should be well stocked before leaving England. On the other hand, the remuneration is handsome, even unskilled labourers are being paid up to 15 dollars (at to-day's rate of exchange, £3 15s.) per day, so that artists should have no difficulty in securing adequate fees.

American Sense of Humour.

Audiences will be found to be much more critical and less demonstrative than English audiences. They reserve their praise until the conclusion of the performance, when, if they are pleased, they are generous in appreciation and applause. For the most part they are musical; the bloods of various nations that to-day form their citizens induce them to be temperamental and appreciative of art to a high degree.

To entertainers of a humorous type American audiences are difficult at first; their ideas of humour are entirely different from ours, and can only be learnt by experience. They are even more stolid since they have been robbed of stimulant to their joviality by prohibition. It would be as well if entertainers made themselves acquainted with American humour before accepting a tour there.

Mr. Julius Daiber.

American agents are not unmindful of the undoubted talent that exists in the "little island off France," and one of the most enterprising impressarios in New York, Mr. Julius Daiber, came over a few months ago to look for "good things." He possesses all the shrewd business acumen with which American commercial men are accredited, as well as a charming frankness, and these virtues, combined with a most congenial personality, undoubtedly account for the extensive and important connection he has built up. On his recent visit here he made arrangements to take that popular member of the concert world, Fraser Gange, one of our most finished oratorio basses, across to U.S.A. this spring. We feel sure the success he will achieve will encourage Mr. Daiber to exploit more British talent at an early date.

Mr. S. Hurok.

Another enterprising New York agent is Mr. S. Hurok, who appears to be fearless in his business deals, and is certainly meeting with tremendous success. He is responsible, among other extensive schemes, for a series of Sunday concerts at the New York Hippodrome, where he is presenting such famous artists as Emmy Destinn and Mischa Elman, and all the prominent orchestras of America. It is to be hoped Mr. Hurok also will visit England soon, and assist our talent here, that is frequently handicapped for want of opportunities.

Mr. Daniel Mayer.

Mr. Mayer, who built up an extensive agency in London, is now firmly established in New York, and we hope he will utilise his American connection to further the interests of his English artist friends by offering them tours in the States.

TOURING CONCERT PARTIES.

NAME.	PROPRIETOR.	JAN. 5.	JAN. 12.	NEXT✱ VACANCY.
BREVITY	Richard Jerome	....	Albert Hall, Stafford.	
BUBBLES	....	Corn Exchange, Farnham.	Leas Pavilion, Folkestone.	
CHUMS	Tom E. Roma	Anglesea Pal., Burton-on-Trent.	Grand, Banbury.	
GEMS, THE BRILLIANT ...	Ben Whitworth	....	Abbey Theatre, Ramsey, Hunts.	
JOY	Mackenzie Lee	Grand, Eversham.	Empire, Redcar.	
KRAZY KATS	Jim Clark	Town Hall, Fenny Stratford.	Pixmore Hall, Letchworth.	
NOBODIES	....	Assembly Rooms, Chester.	....	
OPTIMISTS	Will Catlin	Rusholme.	Rusholme.	
P.P.P.	Gane & Morley	Midland Hotel, Manchester.	Midland Hotel, Manchester.	
ROYAL SCARLETS	Geo. Christian	New Pav., Morecambe.	Lyric, Hull.	
SUMMITS	Albert Lyon	Palace, Derby.	A.P., Burton-on-Trent.	
WITS	Richard Jerome	Kursaal, Whitley Bay.	....	

✱ The charge for inserting date of next Vacancy in this column is 1/- per insertion prepaid.

THE CONCERT WORLD.

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Prospectus and Syllabus of Local Centres and Local School Examinations (open to general public) free.

NEW TERM COMMENCES MONDAY, JAN. 12.

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THE C.A.B. ASSOCIATION.

FIFTH "AT HOME."

The fifth "At Home" of the Concert Artists' Benevolent Association was given at St. George's Hall, Langham-place, on Sunday evening, and an attractive programme gave evident satisfaction to a large audience. Mr. Sivori A. J. Levey was a highly popular chairman. In the first part of the entertainment, which was arranged by Mr. Alan Adair, songs were rendered by Mr. E. Gibbon Lowden, Mr. Andrew B. Britton, Miss Ivy Hughes, and Mr. Chas. Staniland (duettists), Miss Gladys Hope, Miss Norma Leigh, Miss Doris Cloud (violiniste) played "Fantasia Ballet," Mr. Cyril Lidington gave in most effective style the Queen Mab speech and "Little Baptiste," Mr. Andrew Buchanan recited in character "A Poor Old Bachelor," Mr. Gordon Truman was applauded for his clever conjuring work, Mr. Sydney Arnold sang "Nerves" with good effect, Miss Hetty Bolton's Chopin selection on the piano met with an enthusiastic reception, and Mr. Alfred Stone, entertainer, and Mr. Albert Beck, English concertina soloist, also did well.

At the conclusion of the first part Henry Seton's one-act play, "The Honourable Gertrude," was performed, Miss Mary Brough causing much amusement as Mrs. Briggs, and Mr. Middleton Woods also scoring as Private Herbert Briggs. Miss Helen Ferrers was a duly prim and proper Lady Fatiboneham ,and Miss Gwenda Wren a bright and charming Gertrude Challoner.

The programme also contained the names of the Misses Ada Tunks, Lydia Prescott, Edythe Rhodes, Leslie Elliott, and Messrs. Norman Clare, Wilfrid Liddiatt, Harry Fredericks, and John Story. Mr. Alf Bishop was the stage manager, and the accompanists were the Misses Evelyn Hawkes, Gertrude Mayo, Marjorie Hare, and Mr. Herbert Townsend.

During the interval the chairman made a telling appeal on behalf of the Association, which, though only in its infancy, had done a great work in the cause of charity.

A vote of thanks was accorded Mr. Levey, on the proposition of Mr. Harry Briden, the chief steward, who announced that an entertainment was to be given on the 16th in aid of Mr. Alf. Leslie, who was years ago a well-known variety artist. He was now blind, and had been compelled to give up his profession.

songs of this type before the public at the moment, this number stands alone, with its ear-haunting chorus so deftly syncopated.

Jenny Castelle is featuring "Every Hour Every Day" at all her engagements, and is finding it a sure applause-bringer.

"Billy Ricky," the new novelty chorus number which this firm are issuing shortly, is rapidly catching on with singers and audiences.

Among new numbers accepted recently are "My Fairy Ship of Dreams," written and composed by the popular artist, Miss Leslie Elliott, and "Phantom Voices," a ballad of which much will be heard, by a new composer, Bert Hamill.

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WANTED, the following C.P. Artists for Fit-up Tour: Good Light Comedian, Baritone and Pianist, Comedienne and Dancer; move well in concerteds. Other artists write in. All must be first-class performers, and refinement essential. Dress well, on and off. Tour is practically booked till Easter, then 3 and 6 night (Seaside) towns up to Autumn. Audition on Saturday, 11 to 12. Open 19th. Also good Vent. Will Hulbert write me?

Artists please note.—"Bank Guarantee as to my Financial Position."

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DANCING AT THE SAVOY.

Maurice Singer (formerly of the Biltmore Hotel, New York) and his orchestra are now performing every evening in the large ballroom of the Savoy Hotel. The rendering by the orchestra of all the latest English and American dance tunes is highly appreciated by residents and guests who throng the ballroom nightly.

N.S.L. CONCERTS FOR E. HAM.

Application having been made to the local authority by Mr. Henry Mills, secretary to the National Sunday Legaue, for permission "to give a series of high-class Sunday concerts at East Ham Palace," East Ham Council, who have consistently refused to allow the opening of local cinemas on Sundays, have decided by ten votes to eight to accede to the application.

IN AID OF ST. DUNSTAN'S

Under the auspices of the bookstall staff of Messrs. W. H. Smith & Sons a bohemian concert—the proceeds of which will be devoted to St. Dunstan's Home for the Blind—will be held at Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street, on Wednesday the 21st inst. at 7.30 p.m. Tickets and full particulars may be obtained of Mr. Ayling, Railway Bookstall, Gt. Portland-street Station.

THEATRICAL GOSSIP.

The Actors' Association Annual Meeting—A Startler from the States—Henry Ainley in Three Parts—An Attractive Eastern Tour.

The A.A. Annual.

The annual meeting of the Actors' Association will be held on Feb. 7. It is hoped to secure the Queen's Theatre for the purpose—a singularly appropriate setting for the occasion, as it was here that the late Sydney Valentine ended his labours in late Sydney Valentine last acted and next door to the Globe, on the stage of which he ended his labours in the cause for which he fought so nobly.

"Aphrodite" for London.

Negotiations are now afoot for producing in London the much-debated, not to say daring, American production, "Aphrodite." Of a certain London actor to be concerned with this production one might perhaps use the Shakespearean quotation, "Swetes to the Swete."

Why Cassius Came Out.

The sudden change of the actor engaged to play Cassius in "Julius Cæsar" at the St. James's next Friday is due to the fact that Mr. Basil Rathbone, who was originally engaged for the part, was already under contract to Miss Constance Collier for "Peter Ibbetson." Miss Collier suddenly notified Mr. Henry Ainley that she might require Mr. Rathbone rather quickly. Whereupon Mr. Ainley also suddenly captured another excellent actor for the difficult character of Cassius, namely Mr. Milton Rosmer, who was scoring recently in "Jack o' Jingles" at the New Theatre. And very finely M. R. is "shaping."

Mr. Milton Rosmer has always been a "quick study," but the task of memorising more than 500 lines, as well as rehearsing daily, is no light one. Fortunately, he is well acquainted with the play, in which he has appeared successively as Marc Antony, Brutus, and Casca. The present engagement was largely suggested by his recent brilliant success as Sir Corry White, another attractive schemer, in "Jack o' Jingles."

Ainley in Three Parts.

The late J. L. Toole used to be fond of seeing himself billed as "Toole in Three Pieces." Henry Ainley, however, tells us that he may shortly be found—like All Gaul—"in three parts." That is to say, this fine actor may, during the run of "Julius Cæsar," alternately play Brutus and Cassius, as well as Mark Antony!

Phelps the First.

We think it will be found upon careful scrutiny of the drama's records, that that great actor Samuel Phelps was the first who played Brutus, Cassius and Mark Antony (likewise Cæsar) in this tragedy. It is to be noted that Henry Ainley has played nearly all the characters—especially all the small ones—including several citizens—and a "mob" or two—with his first manager, F. R. (now Sir Frank) Benson.

Ben Webster Twice Daily.

That clever comedian, Ben Webster, is now playing two parts per day—namely, in "His Happy Home" in the afternoon at the Comedy, and in "Mr. Pim Passes" at the New Theatre at night. One of the first to do this sort of thing was the great sailor actor, T. P. Cooke, who during the phenomenal run of "Black-eyed Susan" at the Surrey ninety years ago also played William for some months on the same evening at Covent Garden. One of the most recent actors to perform this two theatres per night "act" was the late Mr. Sydney Valentine.

Eastward Ho!

Mr. H. B. Waring, who recently acted so well with the Bensons, Granville Barker, etc., has just come over from India, where he has been acting with great success. He is now busily selecting plays and players to take back with him for touring with a new Far East-going company, strongly backed by a millionaire Parsee theatrical manager, namely, J. F. Madan, O.B.E. This company, called "Eastern Tours, Ltd.," embarks next April, to open in Calcutta, and then goes on to Simla, Mussoorie, Bombay, Karachi, Delhi, and Rangoon, and after that to China and Japan.

The tour will last two years. The repertory will consist of various successes, ancient and modern, classical and current. Among the last named just secured by Mr. Waring is "The Choice."

Mr. Waring tells us that not only has he arranged—as to salaries—to "standardise" the rupee at twelve to the £1, but also that he has been able to fix the Far Eastern hotel charges for his artists, etc., at 8 rupees per day top price!

American Actors' Sunday.

The Actors' Equity Association, fearing that the managers will try to establish the custom of giving performances of plays on Sundays, writes our American correspondent, has taken steps to thwart any such enterprise. At a meeting of one thousand members of the Equity Association a resolution was adopted to appoint a committee that will strive to counteract the efforts of the Theatrical Managers' Association to have Sunday performance legalised by the State Legislature.

Another resolution adopted called for the conduct of a campaign to educate the public to the necessity of the actor having a six-day week. Francis Wilson, who presided, said that this action was not taken on religious grounds, but because the actor was entitled to his Sunday off the same as anyone else.

Actor's Spare Time Plays.

Mr. Theophilus Charlton shows great promise as an author. He has already let four serious plays and one comedy. His latest plays will be produced by Mr. N. Carter Slaughter, and Mr. John Worth. Mr. Charlton is at present on tour with a repertory of fourteen pieces, and writes plays in his spare time!

"Peter" at Last.

It seems now really settled—after many negotiations—that Miss Constance Collier will present "Peter Ibbetson" presently for a run at a West-End theatre. Miss Collier will, of course, resume the character of the Duchess of Towers, of which she gave such a splendid impersonation when this piece, which was adapted by the late John Raphael, was presented at a special matinée at His Majesty's four years ago. The famous actress is, she tells us, arranging a fine cast.

"Pip of Pop."

Mr. W. R. Titterton writes in regard to our paragraph last week under the above heading that he has written the libretto and lyrics of a comic opera having a somewhat similar title to the one given—namely, "Prince Pip of Popocatepetl." He adds that no lyrics have been contributed by Mr. Furber, and no music by Mr. Adams, to his piece.

Actors' Golf Society.

At a meeting of the Stage Golfing Society held in London on Saturday, it was arranged to hold the annual general meeting on Saturday, Feb. 7, in London, when the officers for the year and dates of team matches will be settled. The first competition will be held at Bushey Hall, on Feb. 6, for a prize presented by Mr. George Tully. Consolation prizes for senior and junior members will be given by Messrs. Huntley Wright and Thomas Weguelin. Play will be under "Bogey" conditions.

The annual spring and autumn meetings will be held, and medal competitions will take place every alternate week over the Bushey Hall and Ashford Manor courses. Team matches are in course of arrangement with the Bar Golfing Society, Solicitors' Golfing Society, and several London clubs. Mr. Ernest Graham (Playhouse) is the hon. secretary, and he informs us that the Society has reached the limit of 125 members, seventy of whom have been enrolled since it was re-formed in March last.

Marriage of Miss Beatrice Lillie.

The marriage took place on Monday, at St. Paul's Church, Fazeley, Tamworth, of Mr. Robert Peel (son of Sir Robert Peel, Bart.) and Miss Beatrice Gladys Lillie, who has been playing in "Bran Pie" at the Prince of Wales Theatre. Master Anthony Pelissier, Fay Compton's little son, acted as page. After the ceremony, the reception was held at Drayton Manor; and a notable incident was the cutting of the cake by the bride with her husband's sword. The happy event aroused great interest in the village, and as the newly married couple left the church they were covered with confetti.

Mdlle. Gina Palerme Returns.

We learn that Mdlle. Gina Palerme—now in France—is arranging to return to London in about a month in a new play. Mdlle. seems to be acquiring quite a new batch of French plays to produce.

"Too Many Girls" Music.

An injustice was done to a popular chef de orchestre last week by our Liverpool critic, who gave a most favourable notice of the music of Mr. Courtneidge's "Too Many Girls," but omitted to mention the composer's name. It was Mr. Arthur Wood, the musical director of the London Gaiety, to whom we hereby give the credit due.

Our Most Popular Actress.

The voting in the "London Mail" to discover who is our most popular actress has now been running for three weeks, and the result so far is interesting. Miss Gladys Cooper headed the poll in the first week, Miss Vesta Tilley the second, and Miss Phyllis Dare the third, while the prize given for securing the greatest number of votes in each week were won by Miss Gladys Cooper, Miss Phyllis Dare, and Miss Mary Glynne. The voting will continue for some time longer.

Percy Hutchison's Canadian Triumph.

Mr. Hutchison is having a glorious time in Canada. People are motoring in from the far-out stations to the towns where he is playing to witness his fine performance as Stanton in "The Luck of the Navy," which is exceeding even the success which it enjoyed in the Homeland.

Mr. Hutchison's increasing business and interests in all parts of the world, by the way, has induced him to give up his lease of the Opera House, Southport, after 11 years of management. During this time the theatre was largely patronised by all the best companies touring.

"Disgraced."

The above established success visits London next week, and plays twice nightly with a Monday matinée at the Palace Theatre, Bow. Originally produced in London at the Theatre Royal, Stratford, on September 1, 1919, this domestic drama has been playing to phenomenal business in the provinces. Booking already extends well into 1921, and Messrs. Wagner and Skardon are sending out three new productions during the coming year.

Nevill Graham Enterprises.

"Sonny Jim" is the title chosen for the new musical play, founded on Arthur Law's farce, "The New Boy," which is being produced by Nevill Graham on Jan. 26, at the Grand Theatre, Wolverhampton. The book is by Herbert C. Sargent, lyrics by H. D. Banning, and the music by William Neale. George Lestocq is responsible for the dances and ensembles.

"The Maid of the East" commenced a third tour on Monday last at the Opera House, Middlesborough, and bookings extend well into next year.

Mr. Graham's "Dick Whittington" pantomime at the Theatre Royal, Huddersfield, has scored a big triumph, and Alfred Wareing's pretty theatre is crowded at each performance.

Shakespearean Double Century.

Mr. J. Bernard Fagan's production of "The Merchant of Venice" registered on Friday its 100th performance at the Court. A fresh Shakespearean record is thus established, for as "Twelfth Night" ran well over 100 performances, Mr. Fagan has within 12 months at the same theatre achieved a double "century run" with the work of our national Bard.

Brighton Amateurs at the Court.

The Dramatic Players, an amateur society from Brighton, are making their first appearance in London at the Court Theatre on Jan. 16, in a matinée performance of Alexandre Dumas' play, "A Marriage of Convenience." The play is produced by Mr. Arthur Payne under the direction of Mr. E. Holman Clarke, and the performance is in aid of St. Dunstan's.

An Arbitrary Ruling.

Two of the Hull magistrates (Dr. Lilley and Dr. Divine) have taken up an unusual attitude in declining to permit children of school age to appear in the pantomime, "Mother Hubbard," at the Grand Theatre, Hull, at matinées, though out of school hours. Mr. Wylie Thompson, manager for the company, asked permission for them to appear between 4 and 4.30, and Mr. Raynor, superintendent school attendance officer, raised no objection. Permission had previously been granted by other magistrates for them to appear nightly between 7 and 9 o'clock.

Dr. Lilley thereupon commented that it would mean the children would practically be in the theatre from 4 o'clock to 9, and that was not good for them. Mr. Thompson replied that they provided tea for the children, and they were able to leave the theatre between 4.30 and 7 o'clock. Dr. Lilley remarked that he would prefer the children to be at the theatre during the afternoon, and not at night, as it was better for them to be at home with their mothers. He and his colleague declined the application.

Mr. Thompson told our correspondent that the children were very disappointed, as they were very happy in the theatre. The money they earned was also welcome in their homes, because most of them had lost their fathers in the war.

A New Record Breaker.

"Punch and Judy," the musical fairy play, of which we gave a detailed notice in our last issue, has already started to break records. At the Winter Gardens, New Brighton, 16 performances were given to close upon 24,000 people, and every record for 12 years since the Winter Gardens opened was eclipsed. On one day from 10 a.m. until 8 p.m. there was a queue half-way across the road, booking seats, and the staff issued during the 10 hours no fewer than 5,000 seats for various performances.

As Mr. Wilfred Shine pointed out on Saturday night, when the crowded house demanded a speech, "Punch and Judy" was the fourth brilliant success to the credit of Vincent Douglass—first "The Jeffersons," then "A Christmas Dream," "Princess Pody," and now "Punch and Judy." "For one so young," said Mr. Shine, "this is truly a remarkable achievement." "Punch and Judy" is at the Pavilion, Colwyn Bay, this week.

A Non-Stop Comedy.

"The Jeffersons" commences its fourth year of tour on Feb. 23, with Mr. Wilfred Shine in his original part. The comedy is nearing its 1,000th performance, and will tour continuously until Dec. 11.

The Birkenhead Royal.

Since our announcement last week that Mr. W. W. Kelly had sold the New Theatre Royal, Birkenhead, to a London and provincial syndicate, he has been bombarded with inquiries. All that he would say, however, was that the effect of his action takes place at the end of March, but that he will fulfil his contracts with all those who hold them with him during the current year. Thus, whatever the future holds for the Birkenhead Royal, it will remain virtually unaffected until Dec. 31, 1920.

Discussing his action with "The Era" representative, Mr. Kelly stated that a very good offer having come his way, he had decided to accept it, as he is not getting any younger, and as he is desirous of concentrating his energies upon the Liverpool Shakespeare Theatre, which house he has brought to such a remarkable level of success. Mr. Kelly has been a citizen of Birkenhead for upwards of 22 years, and he has made his theatre there a brilliant success.

"Ned Kean of Old Drury."

The new romantic play named above, from the pen of Arthur Shirley, was produced by Mr. Cecil Barth last autumn with the greatest success at the Princes Theatre, Manchester, and was taken thence to the Lyceum, Sheffield, the Theatre Royal, Nottingham, the King's, Glasgow, the Theatre Royal, Newcastle, and the Court, Liverpool. Mr. H. A. Saintsbury made a remarkable impression in the title rôle, and was frequently obliged to address the audience at the end of the play, which averaged nine and ten curtains.

Mr. Barth is now looking for a West End theatre, and has every confidence that London will endorse the extraordinary enthusiasm shown in the provinces. Several of the towns where the play has already been given have been re-booked for the autumn.

Old Vic. Christmas Festival.

Six Shakespeare plays, an old comedy, a nativity play, and a dramatised version of Dickens' "Christmas Carol" (fifteen performances in all) were included in the Christmas Shakespeare Festival, which has attracted crowded houses since Boxing Day. The second half of the present season commences on Monday next with "The Taming of the Shrew."

French Writer's Death.

M. Paul Adam, the well-known French writer, died on Jan. 2, after a short illness. He was the author of "Les Mouettes," at the Comedie Française, in 1906, which, however, had only 19 performances.

Gas Equals Electricity.

The electricity restrictions at Hull, which prohibit the use of current at the theatres and cinemas at Hull for matinées, have been overcome, by the Grand Theatre, where matinées of "Mother Hubbard" are now possible. A high-pressure gas plant has been installed, and the footlights are now lit by gas, as is other requisite lighting. A return has been made to the limelights of early days for the scenes, and all round the effect is not easy to distinguish from electricity.

A SYDNEY VALENTINE MEMORIAL.

PENSION FUND STARTED.

A movement is on foot which is receiving strong support from influential quarters in the theatrical world to establish a pension fund which shall serve as a permanent memorial of the great work which the late Sydney Valentine did for his brother and sister artists.

With a view to meeting immediate expenses and establishing a nucleus, subscriptions have already been collected on the initiative of Mr. Oscar Asche at several London theatres, with gratifying results. Lest any erroneous impression should be created, it may be well to point out that though Mr. Sydney Valentine held a fine position in his profession, and no doubt earned a comfortable salary, that salary ceased with his life, and it may be truly said that he gave his life for his profession.

Under these circumstances it is felt that the theatrical profession, and especially the members of the Actors' Association, should endeavour to make such provision as is possible for his widow in recognition of his services and his sacrifice.

"The £3 Minimum."

In order that the proposed memorial may be of a permanent kind and of such a character as would have appealed to Sydney Valentine, it is thought that a capital sum should be established which will yield at least £156 per annum—£3 per week—"the standard minimum wage" for which he fought so hard, and that such income should be given to Mrs. Valentine for her life, and thereafter should be utilised for the purpose of providing a pension to one or more pensioners who shall be members of the Actors' Association—the award of the pension to be made by ballot of the entire Association.

A small committee has been formed under the chairmanship of Mr. Norman McKinnel (the present chairman of the Actors' Association), with a view to formulating a scheme for raising the necessary funds, and a meeting of managers and others interested will be held immediately.

Subscriptions may be sent to Mr. C. V. France, at Wyndham's Theatre, and to Mr. Theodore Goddard, at 10, Serjeant's Inn, Temple, E.C. 4.

ACTORS AND THE TOURING CONTRACT.

TO THE EDITOR OF "THE ERA."

Sir,—I write to differ from you for, I think, the first time.

Referring to the death of Sydney Valentine, you speak of the "fateful meeting" and the "uncompromising hostility which had been worked up towards the touring contract." Allow me to say the hostility required no working up! That the fateful meeting had such a sad effect on Mr. Valentine was no fault of those gathered there that afternoon. I sat in the stalls and heard all that passed, and nothing but what was natural to decent indignation was uttered. Many called out assurances of personal regard for Mr. Valentine. The hostility to the council's touring contract was spontaneous. There exists every proof of that. Provincial artists objected to giving a free week for rehearsals. The council of the A.A., which was to fight our cause, gave two weeks free. The word "betrayal" has been applied to that. Can anyone be surprised thereat? Personally, I see nothing in the touring contract that compensates us for that. Is there another calling in the world would give a week's time and work (much less two) for nothing?

Again, you say "How little the opposition represented the opinion of the bulk of the Association was shown by the large majority by which the contract was accepted in the recent ballot." Two-thirds of the Association refrained from voting one way or the other. We are now having some light thrown on that point, and I expect more will be heard of it. Had I been one of the many speakers on Nov. 30 I should have said, in the words of the Bard, "You shall not seal to such a bond for me; I'll rather dwell in my necessity."—Yours faithfully,

G. W. BERESFORD INNES.
30, Hogarth-road, Earl's Court.
Jan. 3, 1920.

[The hostility to the contract may have been spontaneous at the meeting, but the agitation which we deprecated had been worked up beforehand by statements that ignored the fact that the contract was the irreducible minimum and was designed—this month's issue of the "Actor," the Association's official organ, confirms our opinion—to safeguard the lowest grades. That the two-thirds of the Association which refrained from voting would have been against the Council is yet to be proved, and is therefore no argument in favour of the rejection of the contract.—Ed., "The Era."]

THE "CHARLEY'S AUNT" CLUB.

A RECORD REUNION.

"Charley's Aunt" has a hobby of making records, and it indulged in another on Sunday, when the Victoria Room of the Criterion Restaurant were filled to overflowing with past and present members of the company which has kept evergreen the late Brandon Thomas's farce since the day of its production.

The president, Mrs. Brandon Thomas, beamed graciously from the chair, and others present were Miss Amy Brandon Thomas, Mr. Jevan Brandon Thomas, Mr. J. R. Cranford, Mr. and Mrs. Bertram Seabrook, Miss Desirée Ellinger, Mr. Sidney Compton, and innumerable others.

Mr. Cecil Barth acted as host, and was most solicitous for the comfort of the guests. Mr. Arthur Helmore opened the programme with a characteristic humorous recitation. Mr. Charles Tree sang an amusing mock epic about a flea and gave as an encore the ever-popular "Mélisande." Miss Christine Silver recited Kipling's "East and West," and Mr. "Freddie" Ross appeared in an unaccustomed rôle, that of a humorous singer, with great success. Miss Combe gave a delightful rendering of one of Mme. Guy d'Hardelot's more recent compositions, "Wait," accompanied by the composer, and Mr. Derek Oldham sang "The Cruiskeen Lawn'," and was doubly encored. A clever little war sketch was admirably acted by the Misses Drucilla and Alice Wells, and 'cello solos were given by Mr. McLinden and M. Tito Barbirolli. Other contributors were Miss Coxon and Miss Vera Lowe and Mr. Darrell Faucourt. Miss Mukle's orchestral trio provided pleasing musical selections.

Hovenden's British Grease Paints

These paints are made at our Factory, guaranteed pure, colours perfect, and quality better than any foreign make, and at same price. We are also producing

LINING PENCILS & COCOA BUTTER.

These can be obtained at all High-class Hairdressers', Chemists', &c.

A few opinions from popular people.

Mr. MARTIN HARVEY, Grand Theatre, Hull.—"I have been intending for some time to send you a testimonial about your Grease Paints. I have given them a good trial now, and I think I can honestly say that they are superior even to the German, and that, alas! is saying a good deal. I compliment you heartily upon your achievement." Mr. WILL EVANS, Theatre Royal, Drury Lane.—"I thank you for sample of your Grease Paints you sent, and I find it a very excellent preparation. I shall certainly continue to use it."

ACTORS' ASSOCIATION MATTERS.

THE 1920 COUNCIL.

FRIDAY'S COUNCIL MEETING.

We reprint below the nomination form for the Council of the Actors' Association, to be elected for the present year.

Appended are the names of the present Council who offer themselves for re-election and the new candidates.

PRESENT COUNCIL.

Gerald Ames
Frank Arlton
Allan Aynesworth
Lilian Braithwaite
Phyllis Broughton
Percy Clarbour
O. B. Clarence
Lisa Colman
W. G. Fay
Alfred Goddard
C. V. France
Georgina Hamilton
Ernest Hendrie
Madge McIntosh
Norman McKinnel
Dawson Millward
Murri Moncrieff
Dennis Neilson-Terry
Henry Oscar
Lennox Pawle
Sydney Paxton
Saba Raleigh
Lucy Sibley
A. Harding Steerman
George Tully
Henry Vibart
Ben Webster
Stephen Wentworth
J. Fisher White
Hugh E. Wright

NEW CANDIDATES.

Eric Albury
Thorpe Bates
E. Beresford
Isabel Beresford
C. Blakiston
Jessica Black
James Carrall
Lewis Casson
A. Ferrar
Gladys Ffolliott
George Fry
Luke Forster
Elizabeth Hamilton
Alfred Harding
Frederick Harker
Frank Heath-Saunders
Frank Irish, Senr.
J. Scott Leighton
David Leslie
Alfred Lugg
Norman McKinnel
Kathleen Magee
Percy Marshall
Robert Michaelis
Fred Raynham
Clifford Rean
E. J. Story-Gofton
F. B. J. Sharp
Herbert Stanton
Athole Stewart
George Silburn
Bertram Wallis
Huntley Wright
Fred Wright

The New Cards.

If there is any delay in issuing new cards it is due to the rush of members to pay subscriptions. Extra help has been crowded in wherever any space was available, and the Association rooms have absolutely bulged with clerks.

Will all members kindly note that 16 death levies are due, and six protection stamps or less any spaces which have been marked off?

Council Meeting Minutes.

The usual weekly meeting was held on Jan. 2, when there were present: Mr. Norman McKinnel (chairman), Messrs. Henry Vibart, C. V. France, J. Fisher White, A. Harding Steerman, Murri Moncrieff, Ernest Hendrie, Sydney Paxton, Percy Clarbour, Dawson Millward, and W. G. Fay; Misses Phyllis Broughton, Georgina Hamilton, Lisa Colman, and Lucy Sibley, Mrs. Saba Raleigh, Mr. Theodore Goddard (solicitor) and Mr. Alfred Lugg (secretary).

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed.

A vote of condolence was passed with Mrs. Valentine on the death of Sydney Valentine and with the relatives of Hampton Gordon.

Mr. Lugg read telegrams of sympathy from the Variety Artists' Federation, the Royal Chartered Subsidised Theatre, Amsterdam, Mr. Batson, Miss Grace Warner and George Gordon, the Rosa Lind Company, Amsterdam, Theodore Goddard, and Madge McIntosh. He added that many other letters and telegrams, which time did not permit of reading, had been received.

The various reports were read and adopted.

Elections.

The following were elected members:—May Percival, Peggy Fishwick, V. Harbord, Noel Morris, Gwendoline Evans, Hugh Robinson, J. W. Welsh, John Temple, Veronica Hammond, Mollie Fishwick, Queenie Stanley, Eileen Moore, Stanley St. George, Hetty G. Graham, Esme Gray, Lena Harding, Shirley Grey, Gifforde Reynolds, Mary Gardiner, Anna Russell, Annie Stalman, Victoria Booth, M. Lister, Gladys Bayer, Winifred Evans, Ethel Weston, L. W. Young, Geraldine Ap Rhys.

NOMINATION FOR THE COUNCIL, 1920,

To represent

LONDON }
PROVINCES } Cross out whichever word is not applicable.

Retiring Officers and Members of the Council will be considered re-nominated for election unless they notify to the contrary.

Proposed by .... No..........
(Who must be a Member in Full Benefit.)

Seconded by .... No..........
(Who must be a Member in Full Benefit.)

Signature of Candidate.. No..........
(Who must be a Member in Full Benefit.)

This Form duly filled in and signed by the Candidate must reach the Secretary not later than January 17, 1920.

ALFRED LUGG, General Secretary.

PARIS MUSICIANS & DANCERS STRIKE

OPERA CLOSED INDEFINITELY.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

PARIS, Jan. 4.—The combined forces of the orchestra, chorus, and dancers of the Academie Nationale de Musique have carried out their threat of a strike. The curtain did not rise on Friday evening, and the disappointed audience had to leave. "Samson et Dalila," with the ballet from "Henri VIII.," had been announced, and the receipts exceeded 28,000 frs. The stage manager explained that the chorus, orchestra and dancers had not arrived, and from reports he understood a strike had been declared, though the direction had not been advised. His surmise was perfectly correct, for a meeting had been held during the afternoon at the Labour Exchange, with M. Ruhlmann, the chef d'orchestre of the Opera, in the chair, when it was decided not to work that evening, though it can be stated for once the electricians and stage-hands were strongly opposed to this decision.

M. de Diaghilev, the impresario of the Russian Ballets, had made a proposition that his troupe should appear on the evenings advertised, and that any extra salary claimed would be paid for those special performances. But this seems to have poured oil on the conflagration, M. de Diaghilev being advised to see M. Clemenceau and obtain satisfaction for all, and not for his own show only.

The strikers declare that in spite of promises made they have never received the increase in wages under the agreement entered into at the time of the theatre and music hall strike last September. This assertion is also made at other theatres. On the other hand the management of the Opera explains the indemnity of 5 frs. per day granted in November, 1918, has increased the budget of that house by 1,200,000 frs., and there is now an average loss of 5,000 frs. on each performance.

Though the claims are perfectly legitimate the management cannot support them unless the Government consents to increase the subvention from 800,000 frs. to 2 million francs, as demanded. The Fiscal Commission recently refused this augmentation. It does not require glasses to see through the present movement.

The authorities are in a difficult position. They cannot grant even an extra million to keep up the Opera for the rich, in these days of equality, without making some compensation for the amusement of the workers, in the form of a cheap circus or popular theatre, which has long been claimed. Likewise it is a shortsighted policy to increase the war tax on amusements (now being discussed) and pay it out to State theatres as subventions. The outcome is that the management of the Opera, following the strike declared by the orchestra and dancers, has decided to close for the time being.

OPERA CO.'S CHARITABLE EFFORT.

During a recent visit to the Alhambra Theatre, Barnsley, the Allington Charsley Opera Company, with the permission of Mr. Allington Charsley, undertook to give a special Sunday concert, the proceeds of which were to be devoted to Sir Arthur Pearson's Fund for the After-care of Blinded Soldiers and Sailors. The Alhambra Theatre was kindly lent for the occasion by Major Carrington, and Mr. Frewin, the conductor of the Opera Company, undertook to organise the concert.

The amount obtained, namely, £681 14s., is a testimony, not only of the splendid organisation of Mr. Frewin, but also the high esteem in which the members of the company are held by the citizens of Barnsley. The concert proved a huge success, the hall being crowded, and the various items were received with acclamation and approval.

Sir Arthur Pearson desires to express his very sincere appreciation of the splendid assistance which he has received from the Charsley Opera Company, and expresses the hope that they will continue to assist him in the work of providing for the welfare and after-care of our brave heroes who have been blinded as a result of the war.

EMPLOYMENT OF THEATRICAL CHILDREN.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE'S REPORT.

The report of the committee appointed by the President of the Board of Education to advise the Board as to the rules which they should make with reference to licences to children to take part in entertainments under the Prevention of Cruelty to Children Act, 1904, as amended by Section 13 (2) of the Education Act, 1918, was issued on Dec. 31.

The committee consisted of Mr. F. H. Oates, C.B. (chairman), Mr. W. R. Barker, C.B., Mr. A. G. Channings, Miss Italia Conti, Mr. Tom B. Davis, Sir John Dickinson (and in his absence Mr. R. F. Graham Campbell), Mr. P. Hedderwick, Mrs. H. B. Irving, Mr. A. Maxwell, Mr. Philip J. Rutland, Mr. John Stevenson, and the late Mr. Sydney Valentine.

The committee held nine meetings, and heard oral evidence from twelve witnesses, including representatives of local education authorities, matrons who have had the charge of children touring the country to take part in variety entertainments, youthful members of the theatrical profession who have been able to relate their recent experiences as children taking part in public entertainments under licence, and several children actually on tour and performing in music halls. They also received memoranda prepared by persons who have had special experience of the conditions of life and education of children performing in public, and memoranda from certain school boards of Scotland, with whom, in that country, the grant of licences rests.

The witnesses orally examined were: Alderman John Collins, Justice of the Peace, chairman of the Blackpool Education Committee; Mr. J. H. Capes, superintendent of school attendance officers at Leeds; Mr. J. H. Torbitt, M.A., an assistant to the Director of Education at Manchester; Miss Yates, one of the matrons employed by Mr. John Tiller to take charge of children performing in variety entertainments; Mr. Roy Royston, Miss Valerie Tahan, and Miss Joyce Robey, who have within recent years performed in stage plays as children under licence; Mr. Victor M. Wallace, business manager of the troupe called the Nine Dainty Dots; Mrs. Victor M. Wallace, the matron in charge of the same troupe; Bertha Jefferson, Doris Moodie, and Annie Kitchingman, members of the same troupe.

The Comprehensive Licence.

A point is made of the fact that by Section 13 (2) of the Act of 1918 a licence for a child to take part in an entertainment or series of entertainments shall be granted by the local education authority for the purposes of Part III. of the Education Act, 1902 (i.e., the authority for elementary education) of the area in which the child resides, instead of by a Petty Sessional Court, subject to such restrictions and conditions as are prescribed by rules made by the Board of Education; that such a licence may be rescinded by the local education authority of any area in which it takes effect or is about to take effect if the restrictions and conditions are not observed; and that, subject to the prescribed restrictions and conditions, such a licence may be varied or added to by the local education authority of any area in which it takes effect or is about to take effect at the request of the holder of the licence. The result of these changes is that, whereas under the previous law the effect of a licence granted by the Petty Sessional Court was necessarily confined to the area to which the jurisdiction of the Court extended, the licence will now be effectual throughout the area to which the Education Act, 1918, extends, that is to say, England and Wales, and it will not be necessary to obtain a fresh licence in each area where the child is to perform.

Children's Earnings.

There was a general desire on the part of the Committee that the earnings of children should be earmarked for their benefit, and should not accrue to the benefit of their parents or other persons. Some steps have been taken in this direction, says the report, under the existing system and in many cases some part of the earnings of children is placed in a bank and accumulated for their benefit. We consider it very desirable that Local Education Authorities, when considering applications for licences, should make enquiry as to the earnings of the children and the manner in which those earnings will be dealt with. We feel, however, that there is not a sufficient uniformity of circumstances among the various classes of children who appear in entertainments to make it practicable to impose any general rule on the subject.

Stage Training an Education.

Reservations are made to various portions of the proposed form of licence by various members of the Committee, and in the course of additional observations, Miss Conti says: It has been my invariable experience that to obtain any real hold on a child training for the stage one must begin its training and stage performances, which are an integral part of its training, as young as possible; and I consider that, if this rule is made absolute, managers will try to avoid employing children of school age, and this will encourage the exploitation of freaks and children of stunted growth of 14 and upwards, who will then enter upon a stage career at a very dangerous age, and without any of the protections that the licence gives to younger children.

I can understand that there may be a legal difficulty in allowing elementary school children to play at a matinée on a day when elementary schools are open, although if the Board of Education allows the absence from school of elementary scholars to attend and take part in performances of Shakespeare's plays, I can see no valid reason why elementary scholars should not be allowed to perform at matinées on a week day other than Saturday, say, in lieu of taking "singing" or "elocution" or "organised games" in school, especially in cases where the child may be earning a better education and better home conditions for itself by so doing.

The case is even stronger for the child who is educated privately or at a public school or at a high school, where there is no afternoon school attendance, and I can conceive no real argument why it should not appear at week-day matinées other than Saturdays.

The law has always recognised a distinction between children's employment on the stage and other employment.

To the child its performances on the stage are not a task, not work, but recreation and play.

RULES RECOMMENDED BY THE COMMITTEE.

1. An application for a licence to enable a child to take part in an entertainment or series of entertainments shall be made in writing to the Local Education Authority, signed by the parent and the employer of the child, in the form contained in the First Schedule, and accompanied by the documents mentioned in that Schedule.
2. If a licence is granted by the Local Education Authority it shall be in the form and subject to the restrictions and conditions specified in the Second Schedule. One print of the photograph of the child provided on the application for a licence shall be attached to the licence.
3. An application for a variation of or addition to a licence shall be made in writing to the Local Education Authority of the area in which the licence takes effect or is about to take effect and shall state the grounds on which a variation or addition is desired. No addition to or variation of a licence shall be made which renders the licence inconsistent with the provisions contained in these rules as to the restrictions and conditions subject to which a licence may be granted.
4. The holder of a licence shall at least seven days before the child takes part in any entertainment or series of entertainments furnish to the Local Education Authority of the area in which the entertainment is to take place the information indicated in the Third Schedule.

FORM OF LICENCE.

The Council, in pursuance of an application relating to (hereinafter called the child, whose photograph is attached hereto), residing at in the area for which the Council are the Local Education Authority for the purposes of Part III. of the Education Act, 1902, hereby grant to a licence for the child to be employed and take part in an entertainment or series of entertainments known as for a period of from the day of 19 subject, nevertheless, to the following conditions and restrictions:—

Note.—The period inserted above must not exceed six calendar months.

1. The child shall leave the theatre not later than 15 minutes after the end of his [her] part in the entertainment, and in no event later than p.m.

   Note.—The time mentioned in this condition must not be later than 10 p.m., unless the Local Education Authority are satisfied that the retention of the child up to a later hour is absolutely necessary for the performance, in which case the Authority may extend the time for leaving the theatre to not later than 11 p.m., subject to such conditions as they think necessary for the welfare of the child.
2. The child shall be granted the following holiday during the currency of this licence:—

   Note.—The period of holiday, if any, required by the Local Education Authority must be inserted. The periods of holiday must be so arranged that the child shall have at least 12 weeks' holiday in the calendar year.
3. If during a school term the child takes part in an entertainment after 6 p.m. on any day other than Saturday, he [she] shall not be employed in or in connection with the entertainment before 6 p.m. on that day: Provided always that a Local Education Authority may, if satisfied that adequate provision is being made for the education and general welfare of the child, dispense with this condition for any period during the months of December, January, and February, not exceeding four weeks.
4. The child shall not be employed in or take part in any entertainment unless the School Medical Officer of the Local Education Authority certifies that he [she] may be so employed without prejudice to his [her] health or physical development, and that the employment will not render the child unfit to obtain the proper benefit from his [her] education. For that purpose the child shall be submitted to examination by the School Medical Officer after the first examination at intervals of not more than three calendar months. A Local Education Authority may also direct that the child shall be examined by their School Medical Officer on such other occasions as they think proper, and any such directions shall be complied with. For the purposes of this Article the examination shall be by the School Medical Officer of the area in which the licence is granted or by the School Medical Officer of any area in which the licence is to take effect.
5. The child shall not be employed in any place of entertainment unless that place is approved for the purpose by the Local Education Authority of the area in which it is situated, and in determining whether such approval shall be given the authority shall have regard to the provision of proper dressing rooms exclusively allocated to the children to be employed and of satisfactory and suitable sanitary arrangements, and generally to the health, comfort, and moral protection of the children.
6. The child (if not living with his [her] parent or other person *in loco parentis*) shall not be employed unless he [she] is in the care of a matron, governess or other fit person, who shall be responsible for the welfare of the children and shall accompany them to and from the place of entertainment, and shall be the medium through whom any communications, written or otherwise, to the children at the place of entertainment shall be made. Such person must be approved either by the Authority granting this licence or by the Authority of some area in which it takes effect. The child, if living with his [her] parent or other person *in loco parentis*, shall be accompanied home from the place of entertainment by some fit person.
7. The child shall not be employed on any day unless he [she] is living under conditions and in premises approved by the Local Education Authority of the area in which the entertainment is to take place, and the Authority may attach such reasonable terms to their approval as they think fit: Provided that, if the child lives with his [her] parent or other person *in loco parentis*, this condition shall apply to the child only if on tour.
8. The child shall not without the permission of the Local Education Authority, or such officer of that Authority as the Authority appoint, take part in an entertainment during any school term on any day other than Saturday unless he [she] has made two attendances on that day at a school approved for the purpose by the Authority, or has been receiving education from a teacher approved for the purpose by the Authority granting this licence in accordance with a time-table similarly approved: Provided that such time-table may be modified with the approval of the Local Education Authority of any area in which the child takes part in an entertainment.
9. The person in charge of the child shall keep such records of the scheme of work on which he [she] is engaged at school, and of attendances and work done at school as may be required by the Board of Education, and these records shall be produced if required to the Authority of any area in which the licence takes effect, or to the teacher of a school which the child attends.
10. This licence shall be produced at the place of entertainment at all reasonable hours when required by an authorised officer of the Local Education Authority of the area in which it takes effect.
11. In this licence the expression "school term" means the school term as fixed for Public Elementary Schools in the area in which the entertainment takes place, or any other period accepted by the Local Education Authority of that area as the school term for any particular child.

Given under the seal of the Council,
this day of 19

THE LATE SYDNEY VALENTINE.

MEMORIAL SERVICE.

The memorial service at St. Margaret's Church, Westminster, on Wednesday, at noon, was attended by most of the representatives of the theatrical profession, and was of a simple but most impressive character. The service was choral, and was conducted by Canon Carnegie, assisted by the Bishop of Willesden, who represented the Bishop of London.

After the introductory sentences Psalm xlvi. was sung by the choir, and the lesson read by Canon Carnegie. The anthem selected was Tennyson's "Crossing the bar," and the closing hymn was "Praise to the Holiest in the height." At the conclusion of the service the congregation remained standing while Chopin's Funeral March was played on the organ.

The following members of the council of the Actors' Union were stewards: Mr. Norman McKinnel (deputy-chairman), Mr. Alfred Lugg (secretary), Mr. C. V. France, Mr. Athole Stewart, Mr. Sydney Paxton, Mr. Henry Vibart, Mr. Fisher White, Mr. Alfred Goddard, and Mr. Dawson Milward. Mr. Gerald du Maurier and Mr. Cyril Maude also acted in this capacity. The principal mourners were Mrs. Valentine, Mrs. Guy Valentine, Mr. Mossiter, and Mr. J. McKie.

Among the congregation were Sir Squire Bancroft, Mr. and Mrs. Owen Nares, Messrs. Fred and Geoffrey Kerr, Mr. Nelson Keys, Mr. H. V. Esmond, Miss Violet Campbell, Miss Eva Moore, Mr. Lyn Harding, Miss McCarthy, Mr. Gerald Maude, Mr. Charles Hawtrey, Miss Phyllis Broughton, Mr. Arthur Bourchier, Mr. Alfred Bishop, Mr. Oscar Asche, Miss Liza Coleman, Dame May Webster, Miss Haidee Wright, Miss Marie Wright, Miss Lilian Braithwaite, Mr. Theo Goddard, Mr. Anthony Prinsep, Miss Constance Collier, Mr. Henry Dana, Sir Algernon West, Miss Evelyn Roselle, Miss Joyce Carey, Mr. J. H. Barnes, Mr. C. Raleigh, Mr. Frank Vernon, Mr. Holman Clark, Mr. Robert Macdonald, Mr. H. Hesslegrave, Mr. Ben Davies, Mr. Carlton W. Mason, Mr. Frank Cochran, Mr. T. Lovell, Mr. Ben Greet, Mr. Ambrose Manning, Mr. G. A. G. Paterson (representing the Committee of the Stage's Tribute to Our Blinded Soldiers, of which Mr. Valentine was an active member), Mr. H. W. Rowland (Theatrical Managers' Association), Mr. Cecil Barth (Touring Managers' Association), Mr. Charles Cruikshanks (Royal General Theatrical Fund), Major A. Corbett-Smith (director of the Society of French Drama, Science, and Fine Arts), and Mr. Albert Voyce (Chairman of the V.A.F.).

SYDNEY VALENTINE.

These lines are inscribed by one mourner among thousands:—

Sound artist, Nature's gentleman; steadfast friend;
Courteous though candid, faithful to the end.
A martyr truly, for his life he gave
The humble player from tyranny to save.
Sad though it be at Christmas-tide to go,
Leaving his sorrowing loved ones to their woe,
His voice above, blending with ours, will sing
Eternal carols to the Saviour King.

—R. K. K., The Old Soldier Poet (aged 70), for some years an actor.

AGED ACTOR'S FATAL FALL.

In the Westminster Coroner's Court on the 23rd ult., Mr. S. Ingleby Oddie held an inquest on George Claremont, aged 73, an actor, of Chippenham-road, Paddington, who met with an accident while performing at Drury Lane Theatre on Nov. 11. He died in Charing Cross Hospital on the following Sunday night.

Mrs. Alice Claremont, the widow, stated that her husband was performing in the Drury Lane autumn drama, "The Great Day." He told witness that he fell through a trap door on the stage and had broken his pelvis.

Mr. Ernest Dalton, stage manager at Drury Lane Theatre, said during the performance deceased fell through a trap or "bridge," as it was called, to a cellar below, a distance of 11ft. Evidence having also been given by Mr. Forbes Dawson and Mr. Cecil Graham,

Dr. George Philip, of Charing Cross Hospital, stated that Mr. Claremont had sustained fractures of the pelvis.

The coroner said the chief point that he had to consider was whether the place was sufficiently safe, and whether the actors and actresses were properly protected. He thought the protection afforded was sufficient, and that there had been no negligence in the case. He recorded a verdict of accidental death.

The young danseuse appearing in "Jack and the Beanstalk" at Eastbourne to whom we referred in our last week's issue, was Miss Edith Verdune, not Vera, as stated.

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ON THE ROAD.

[Will Managers kindly send in their Tour Lists for insertion in "On the Road" by Tuesday morning in each week?]

PLAYS.

Aladdin (Stephens).—Jan. 5, Hip., Todmorden; 12, Hip., Wrexham.
Babes in the Wood (Ventom Swift).—Jan. 5, Crown, Eccles; 12, G., Mansfield.
Betty.—Jan. 5, Gloucester; 12, Merthyr.
Betty at Bay.—Jan. 5, T.R., Aldershot.
Boy, The.—Jan. 5, Dunfermline; 12, Falkirk.
Cash on Delivery.—Jan. 5, Metropolitan, London.
Chu Chin Chow.—Jan. 5 and 12, Glasgow.
Chu Chin Chow (Red).—Jan. 5, Grand, Derby; 12, O.H., Middlesbro'.
Cinderella (Buxton).—Jan. 5, Met., Bootle; 12, T.R., Birkenhead.
Cinderella (Jazon and Montgomery).—Jan. 5, Pal., Huddersfield; 12, Pal., Burnley.
Compton Comedy Co.—Jan. 5, O.H., Cork; 12, O.H., Cork.
Curse of the Black Pearl.—Jan. 5, Sutton Bridge and Long Sutton; 12, Shodfriars Hall, Boston, and Exchange T., Spalding.
Custody of the Child.—Jan. 5, Emp., Mountain Ash; 12, Royal, W. Bromwich.
Daddalums.—Jan. 5, W. Pier, Brighton; 12, W. Pier, Brighton.
Daddies.—Jan. 5., T.R., Leamington; 12, T.R., Brighton.
Discharged with Honour.—Jan. 5, Emp., Ushaw Moor; 12, T.R., Sacriston.
Dobell (W. L.) Rep. Co.—Jan. 5, Picture House, Newbridge; 12, Town Hall, Athy.
Fair and Warmer (Macdonald and Young).—Jan. 12, Scarborough.
Female Hun.—Jan. 5, Grand, Doncaster.
Five Nights.—Jan. 5, T.R., Smethwick; 12, T.R, Aston.
Freedom of the Seas (Brasher).—Jan. 5, Pal., Westcliff.
Full Steam Ahead.—Jan. 5, Emp., Edmonton; 12, Hip., Colchester.
Gerard Co. (Rex).—Jan. 5, Pal., Tynemouth.
General Post.—Jan. 12, O.H., Buxton.
Going Up (Macdonald & Young).—Jan. 5, Bolton; 12, Oldham.
Heart of a Thief.—Jan. 5, Coliseum, Shoreham; 12, Globe, Deal.
Hill-Mitchelson, E., Co. (stock company).—T.R., Leicester.
His Little Widows (Macdonald & Young).—Jan. 5, Eastbourne; 12, Hastings and Worthing.
Howitt (E. C.) Rep. Co.—Jan. 5, Public Hall, Woking; 12, Royal, West Bromwich.
Ignorance.—Jan. 5, Pav., Weymouth; 12, Hip., Loughborough.
Irish Players.—Jan. 5, Ballinasloe (3), Mullingar (3); 12, Wicklow (2), Arklow (3).
Kiss Call (Butt).—Jan. 5 and 12, P.O.W., Birmingham.
La Poupée.—Jan. 5, G., Wolverhampton; 12, T.R., St. Helens.
Lilac Domino (Macdonald and Young).—Jan. 5, Rochdale; 12, Halifax.
Luck of the Navy (South).—Jan. 5, Swindon; 12, Chatham.
Maid of the Mountains (Macdonald and Young).—Jan. 5, Perth; 12, Greenock.
Maid of the Mountains (Macdonald and Young, South).—Jan. 5, King's Lynn and Grantham; 12, Kidderminster.
Maid of the South.—Jan. 5, Scunthorpe; 12, King's Lynn.
Mother Goose (Ventom Swift).—Jan. 5, Emp., Barnsley; 12, Lyric, Liverpool.
O'Mara Opera Co.—Jan. 5, O.H., Burnley.
One Law for Both.—Jan. 5, New, Bargoed.
Our Peg (George Edwardes).—Jan. 5 and 12, Prince's, Manchester.
Punch and Judy.—Jan. 5, Pier Pav., Colwyn Bay; 12, Pav., Rhyl.
Quaker Girl.—Jan. 5, Pal., Llanelly; 12, New, Pontypridd.
Purple Mask (King and Clark).—Jan. 5, County T., Bedford; 12, Pav., Weymouth.
Ridding Opera Co.—Jan. 5, Emp., Egremont; 12, New Emp., Langley Moor.
Roses of Picardy.—Jan. 5, Globe, Deal; 12, Hip., Dover.
Seven Days' Leave. — Jan. 5, Grand, Swansea; 12, Emp., Tonypandy.
Sign of the Cross.—Jan. 5, Metropole, Abertillery; 12, County, Reading.
Soldier Boy (Macdonald and Young).—Jan. 5, Warrington; 12, Burton.
Stafford and Woodward Rep. Co.—Jan. 5, Garr. Th., Bordon; 12, Garr., Blackdown.
Temporary Gentleman.—Jan. 5, T.R., Grantham (3).
Three Weeks.—Jan. 5, Royalty, Barrow; 12, Grand, Lancaster.
Toto.—Jan. 5, County T., Reading; 12, O.H., Torquay.
Uncle Sam (Macdonald and Young).—Jan. 5, Folkestone; 12, T.R., Worthing (3), D.P., Eastbourne (3).
Unseen Hand.—Jan. 5, Emp., Aberdare; 12, Herwain and Resolven.
Wagner and Scarden Rep. Co.—Jan. 12, Pal., Bow.
Who's Hooper? (Butt).—Jan. 5, King's, Glasgow; 12, King's, Glasgow.
Woman Who Lied.—Jan. 5, New, Pontypridd; 12, Hip., Loughboro'.
Yellow Dwarf.—Jan. 5, Osborne, Manchester; 12, Hip., Wigan.

REVUES.

By Jingo.—Jan. 5, Gem, Maesteg; 12 Junction, Manchester.
Certainly Not. — Jan. 5, O.H., Kidderminster.
Ching Ching.—Jan. 5, Pal., Peterhead, N.B.; 12, Recreation Hall, Milton (Cumb.).
Footlight Frolics.—Jan. 5, Pal., Derby; 12, Emp., Aberdare.
Heads or Tails.—Jan. 5, Col., Goole; 12, King's, Gainsborough.
Hullo, Baby!—Jan. 5, Aquarium, Great Yarmouth; 12, Marina, Lowestoft.
Hustle.—Jan. 5, Hip., Boscombe; 12, Hip., Brighton.
Kissing Time.—Jan. 5, Lyceum, Edinburgh; 12, Lyceum, Edinburgh.
Moonstruck.—Jan. 5, Bedford, Camden Town.
Mumming Birds.—Jan. 5, Empire, Aston.
Nights of Gladness.—Jan. 5, South London Pal.; 12, Empress, Brixton.
Odds On.—Jan. 5, Hip., Bolton; 12, T.R., Chester.
Oh, Betsy.—Jan. 6, King's, Colne; 12, Hip., Lancaster.
On the Wing.—Jan. 5, Hip., Southend; 12, Emp., Shepherd's Bush.
Redheads.—Jan. 12, T.R., Barnsley.
Revels.—Jan. 5, Leicester; 12, Chatham.
Sky High.—Jan. 12, O.H., Dumfermline.
Splinters.—Jan. 5, Bedford, London; 12, Emp., Bristol.
Sweet Fanny Adams.—Jan. 5, Hip., Wrexham; 12, Tivoli, Manchester.
What Next.—Jan. 5, Pal., Plymouth; 12 Pal., Reading.

THE FORUM CLUB.

ILLUSTRATED BAL MASQUE.

The latest club for ladies is called the Forum Club, and is established at 6, Grosvenor-place, S.W. An inaugural reception was held on Thursday evening last, when a masque illustrative of the club's many-sided activities was given a successful production. The central figure of the masque was Miss Victoria Addison, who, as the living embodiment of the Forum Club, gave effective utterance to the impressive and witty lines which the facile pen of Mrs. Alexandra Gross had provided. A well-deserved tribute was paid to that excellent organisation, the National Federation of Women's Institutes, who had their own banner and the spheres of women's influence which were personified, varied from horticulture to the higher branches of the Civil Service. Every lady played her part with great sincerity, and in some cases with not a little talent. This latter remark particularly applied to Mrs. Charles Windermere, who made a clear-voiced Herald; Miss Hilda Bruce-Potter, who was a dignified Author; Mrs. Le Marchant, who sang sweetly as Music; and Mlle. Marya, who made a delightfully vivacious Jester. But the most realistic figures of all were the two lady policemen, who asserted their authority with a sang-froid which should make Robert look to his laurels. The cleverly designed costumes were by Miss Edith Craig, and the whole had been intelligently and carefully produced by Miss Sybil Ruskin, assisted by the authoress and Miss Marya Vigo.

KELLY'S DIRECTORY.

The 121st annual edition of Kelly's Post Office London Directory is now published in the convenient form of three volumes, and their compilation represents a vast amount of detail work. One learns from the preface that the difficulties with which the compilers have had to contend have increased rather than diminished since the conclusion of the war, owing chiefly to the fact that a very large number of new names which had dropped out of the directory during the years of hostilities had to be re-inserted, while there was also a considerable addition of new names, due to the fact that whereas little more than a year ago the number of offices in the City which were without tenants seemed to be almost endless, the difficulty now for many months past has been to find any office or any part of one unlet. It is obvious that no office reference library is complete without a copy of Kelly's Directory, which has served its useful purpose as a reliable business guide for nearly a century and a-quarter.

Performances of J. M. Barrie's plays, "Pantaloon" and "A Well Remembered Voice," will be given at St. Stephen's Hall, Hampstead, by the Hampstead Amateur Players on Wednesday and Friday next, at 8.30, and on Saturday, at 3.

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before he learnt to clothe it, probably in no stage or form of civilization has the art of dyeing fabrics been unknown, but in all its long history never have the results achieved to day been equalled. The art and craft of the Expert Dyer and Cleaner is a post-war economic necessity. AVOID THE CONSTANT BUYING of new clothes by having them cleaned or dyed by

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THE EMBASSY CLUB.

NEW YEAR RE-OPENING.

Mr. Albert De Courville has taken over control of the old Martan's Club at 6-8, Bond-street, and the premises were re-opened on New Year's Eve as the Embassy Club. A brilliant company assembled upon the invitation of Mr. De Courville, and a festive and frolicsome evening was spent. Lord and Lady Beaverbrook brought a small party, and among those present were Miss Shirley Kellog and many stars of the theatrical firmament, and several members of the Diplomatic Corps. After one of Mr. John Harrison's wonderful cocktails, a deliciously dainty supper was served by M. Capezza, the old chef of the Ritz Hotel, and formerly of Monte Carlo and Aix-les-Bains.

Supper was followed by a distribution of New Year's favours, and then dancing commenced to the strains of the syncopated orchestra. under the direction of Mr. Frank Boor, the general manager of the Hippodrome, who had come along to keep things moving. A specially-hung dancing floor of remarkable resilience has been laid, and the merry throng jazzed and waltzed and one-stepped amid floral chains until the birth of 1920 was heralded. All lights were then turned down for a moment of dramatic silence. The midnight hour was chimed on hand-bells by the orchestra; at the twelfth stroke the lights were turned up, and everyone joined in singing "Auld Lang Syne." Then dancing was resumed in the glare of coloured searchlights, and continued for several hours.

Mr. De Courville's intention is to bring to London, through the medium of the Embassy Club, the atmosphere of the best Paris restaurants, and he has fully achieved this object. The club has been redecorated and refurnished, and is comfortable to the point of luxury, while the membership is limited and exclusive. All the foreign ambassadors in London are honorary members of the club, and other members include some of the best-known people in town.

Mr. De Courville will himself supervise the carnivals and revels, which will eventually become a nightly feature of the club.

The chairman is Mr. Paul Storr, and Major Evans, the secretary, is the very personification of a genial club man, who will be glad to get in touch with intending members, and Mr. Alfred De Bear is looking after the publicity arrangements with his customary enterprise.

BIRTHDAYS OF THE WEEK.

Happy Returns to

Milton Bode, Wednesday, Jan. 7.
Gertrude Mouillot, Wednesday, Jan. 7.
A. P. Kaye, Wednesday, Jan. 7.
Hilda Shirley, Thursday, Jan. 8.
John Lawson, Friday, Jan. 9.
George Conquest, Friday, Jan. 9.
Jessie Bond, Saturday, Jan. 10.
Sybil Lonsdale, Saturday, Jan. 10.
Lady Bancroft, Monday, Jan. 12.
E. M. Robson, Monday, Jan. 12.
Annie Russell, Monday, Jan. 12.
Galway, Herbert, Monday, Jan. 12.
May Lilian Levey, Tuesday, Jan. 13.
Haidee Wright, Tuesday, Jan. 13.
Peggy Byron, Tuesday, Jan. 13.
H. Clarke, Tuesday, Jan. 13.
Grace Lane, Tuesday, Jan. 13.

The beautiful and wonderful dance act of Miss Maude May Murray in "Cinderella," at the Artillery Theatre, Woolwich, is meeting with great success, handsome costumes and brilliant electrical effects calling forth the heartiest applause

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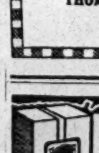

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ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

S. A. G. — *Chirgwin, the White-eyed Kaffir, was born Dec. 13, 1854. Yes; he is still appearing on the halls and going strong.*

F. W. T.—*George Leybourne died Sept. 15, 1884.*

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THE PLAY IN PARIS.

Revival at Comedie Francaise—Ibsen's Heroine in French Colours—War Tax to be Practically Doubled —Summer-Time Shivers.

(FROM "THE ERA" SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT.)

PARIS, Jan. 4.—Henri Lavedan's piece "Le Prince d'Aurec," created in 1889, has been presented as a novelty at the House of Molière. The story portraying the gulf between the aristocracy and the middle-class or bourgeoisi, has aged like the rest of us. From a study of contemporary habits it has become a modern satire on previous conventions, and we are inclined to smile disrespectfully at the former chasm which separated the classes. Mme. Cecile Sorel is an elegant Princess d'Aurec in the present version, perhaps a trifle too exotic, extremely noble in bearing, but lacking the true touch of the old French nobility. Georges Grand is a convincing Prince, while De Max is admirable as the self-made Jew baron, being the real prince of the performance.

It is proposed to commemorate the third centenary of the birth of Molière, which will fall in January, 1922. Performances of 23 of his works will be offered during the whole month, while special ceremonies will be given in the Trocadero and Sorbonne, to which delegates from British and American universities will be invited.

"The Doll's House" in France.

On Saturday evening Lugné Poe, directeur of the Theatre de l'Œuvre (the French equivalent of the Stage Society) presented Ibsen's "La Maison de Poupée," with Suzanne Despres as Nora, Lugné Poe as Heimer, and supported by Mlles. Paulette Pax, Mullo, MM. Chabrier and Raoul. The performances are being given in the Salle Berlioz, 55, Rue de Clichy. The play was enthusiastically received by an audience composed of literary lights of la ville lumière, and the fine acting of Mme. Despres was much applauded. It is one of the best rôles this actress has held, and it is doubtful if any have surpassed her in the part of Nora. Several performances of the piece are announced by l'Œuvre.

Proposed New Taxes.

The theatrical industry and amusement caterers in general are aghast at the Government proposition in the new Budget to substantially increase the present war tax. The proposal is to make the music halls pay 20 per cent. on the net receipts (in addition to the poor rate of 10 per cent.), the theatres from 10 per cent. to 15 per cent., and all other kinds of public entertainments (such as boxing matches, horse-racing, waxworks, etc.), a fixed tariff of 10 per cent., excepting moving pictures, which are to have a revised sliding scale of 15 per cent. on the monthly receipts from 25,000 frs. to 50,000 frs., 20 per cent. over 50,000 frs. to 100,000 frs., and 25 per cent. over 100,000 frs. There is every possibility of the revised war tax, which is almost double the former, being applied, with no rebate for poor rate, royalties, etc., but also a rise of 50 per cent. in property tax, licence, etc. The managers and syndicates of the various entertainment unions are vigorously fighting this Budget proposal, and the Government is now sorry the cat got out of the bag before the question was introduced into the Chamber of Deputies. Some theatrical and music hall managers and kinema exhibitors have publicly declared they will have to close if the measure becomes law, for it will be impossible to again place it on the back of the public, which is now paying almost double for its amusement than prior to the war.

Summer in February.

Summer-time will commence in France on Feb. 1, when the clocks will be put forward one hour till the end of October. I shiver already at the idea, but will be reconciled if we can obtain a little coal which the extra legal hour of daylight is supposed to furnish.

Forthcoming Events.

Brieux's new play, "Les Americains chez nous," will be presented at the Odeon on Jan. 9.

It is rumoured Mme. Rejane will figure in the New Year's list of promotions in the Order of the Legion of Honour, to be shortly published. A well-merited reward for theatrical talent.

"The Admirable Crichton" will be given in French this season by F. Gemier at the Theatre Antoine.

An adaptation of an English piece is being rehearsed at the Ambigu. Its title is "Un Bébé sur Mesure."

THE DRAMA IN AMERICA.

"The Famous Mrs. Fair"—"Abraham Lincoln's" Triumph —A Biblical Operatic Play—Billie Burke as Lady Teazle.

(FROM "THE ERA" SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT.)

NEW YORK, Dec. 27.—Good news for theatre-goers was the announcement that Henry Miller was to occupy his own theatre during the holiday season, in company with Blanche Bates, this being a combination full of promise to all lovers of good acting. Beginning their engagement at Henry Miller's Theatre last Monday, they appeared in a four-act play by James Forbes, entitled "The Famous Mrs. Fair." Mr. Forbes will be remembered as the author of that highly successful play, "The Chorus Lady." The new play is of strong romantic interest and human appeal, with many bright lines and passages of comedy to relieve the tension of the more serious moments. The theme brings up the question of whether a woman can manage a career and a home. The heroine, happily married and the mother of a son and daughter, has been doing ambulance work in France, and has won the Croix de Guerre. When the play begins she has just returned, and finds herself unable to settle down to quiet life after all the excitement of the war. She receives an offer for a lecture tour, but her husband forbids her to leave him and the children. She accepts the engagement, however, and wins fame and fortune. But she comes back to find that her husband has sought companionship elsewhere, while her daughter has formed undesirable attachments and associations. Her eyes are opened to the fact that she has sacrificed home and happiness to her career, and, confronted with her daughter's danger, she heeds the call of duty and wins her husband and children back again.

"Abraham Lincoln."

John Drinkwater's play has taken New York by storm, and the Press are enthusiastic in praise of the piece and performance. The search for an actor to play the title-rôle was a long one. Finally, Frank McGlynn, an actor of experience, but quite unknown in New York, was chosen, and it proved a wise selection. His portrayal of the great emancipator is strikingly effective throughout.

"The Wayfarer."

At the Madison Square Garden, on the 15th inst., the Interchurch World Movement produced an elaborate dramatic and operatic spectacle, telling the story of Christ's life, and showing its application to modern problems. The production is called "The Wayfarer," and Walter Hampden, the Shakespearean actor, has the title-rôle in a cast of thirty persons. There are 2,800 people in the choruses and tableaux, an orchestra of 100 pieces, and about 250 stage hands.

The Wayfarer represents the average man. He appears in the prologue, an allegorical figure, discouraged by recent world events, disheartened over the outlook for the future, and inclined to doubt the potency of Christianity. At his elbow Despair attempts still further to break his wavering faith. The first of the scenes is a battlefield in Flanders, and Despair points to the attendant horrors as symbolical of what the world is approaching.

Comes Understanding, the rôle interpreted by Blanche Yurka, radiant and confident. Reassuringly, she tells the Wayfarer that such things have always been manifest in every crisis in every era, but always there arises a stabilising force which restores man to his own.

With Despair protesting, Understanding takes the Wayfarer back through the ages, and in a series of scenes unfolds the beautiful story of the triumph of Christ.

The magnitude of the production can be realised when one is told that the stage is 25 feet larger in every dimension than that of the Hippodrome. At Madison Square Garden, instead of the cyclorama used in "Columbus," an immense dome has been built over the stage, giving a most realistic sense of vast sky; it also acts as a sounding board. The dome hangs down to within 14 feet of the stage, thereby doing away with the necessity of hanging pieces.

"Curiosity."

H. Austin Adams, author of "'Ception Shoals," has written a three-act comedy, called "Curiosity," and it was presented at the Greenwich Village Theatre. The theme, the relative responsibility of the sexes in marital infidelities, in this instance is treated in quadrangular instead of triangular fashion.

Tom North has had an affair with a woman in Honolulu. He confesses the dereliction to his wife Mildred, but explains that it was only a "parenthesis," and should make no difference between them. He intimates that she was a person of no consequence, but Mildred discovers that she was one of her best friends. This inclines her to feel that she, too, is entitled to have a "parenthesis" in her life, and an opportunity seems to present itself when Hal Peabody, a friend of her schooldays, comes to the house while her husband is away. Mildred weakens, however, and finally locks him out. When her husband returns he suspects her, and makes it evident that he is not willing to forgive any "parenthesis" on his wife's part. However, when he finds that the Honolulu lady is engaged to his suspected rival, he allows his wife to persuade him to forgive her.

Some excellent light comedy work is done by Cyril Keightley as Peabody. Irene Fenwick is an engaging Mildred, and Arvid Paulsen is very amusing as a Chinese servant. The critics had little to say in favour of the play.

A New Lady Teazle.

Florenz Ziegfeld, junr., is about to become a theatre builder. He wants a permanent "home" for his wife, Billie Burke, and her company. Miss Burke has long wanted to appear in some of the old English comedies, and Mr. Ziegfeld has decided to revive "The School for Scandal," with Miss Burke as Lady Teazle. This will be next spring, when the new theatre is built. It is to be "an institution wherein will be preserved the traditions and atmosphere of the old Daly, Lyceum, and Palmer stock companies.

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THE ERA
ESTABLISHED 1837
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 7, 1920.

VAUDEVILLE IN 1920.

Settled Conditions of Employment.

THE agenda paper for the New Year embraces many matters of moment, but happily none of the subjects to be discussed are likely to cause anxiety or unnecessary trouble to the majority of those engaged in the music hall industry. The year opens an epoch of unexampled prosperity in all the stabilised halls, with every indication that this happy state of affairs will be maintained. The British music hall artist, through the effectiveness of his trade union, the Variety Artistes' Federation, has obtained the fairest contract ever known in the history of aggregations and combines, and the period of unrest which marked the inception of this movement has given place to settled conditions, which for five years at least should mean much to the economic and artistic improvement of all concerned.

It is possible that the vast difference in conditions here and in other countries, notably America, is not fully realised by those unacquainted with the international questions affecting variety working, but we are assured that the "twice-nightly" system here is infinitely preferable to the three and four shows a day, split-weeks, and Sunday work which is the lot of 80 per cent. of American music hall performers.

In order to consolidate the advantages gained, the V.A.F. is making a forward movement for the compulsory licensing of all managers, resident or touring, in which category will be included all those engaging individuals in troupes, &c. The Actors' Association is occupied with the same idea, but it is safe to say that a conference between the V.A.F. and the A.A. would be more effective than two separate movements.

The question of the national licensing of variety agents is also to be dealt with. The proposal is one with which the V.A.F. was interested long before 1912, and we surmise that their efforts would receive the support and approval of all present holders on the principle that that which is good for the London men must likewise be of benefit to those in the provinces.

Railway Rates.

Music hall artists are no doubt much concerned with the new conditions which will operate on the railways, and as they are responsible for the presentation of their act "as booked" any further restrictions either in pence or poundage will be a serious hardship. The "excess" rates are now higher than in 1919, and there is a danger that other concessions which from long possession have come to be regarded as legal rights will be the next to come under the consideration of the new controllers of the railways. The travelling question promises to become acute in the near future, and the matter is occupying the attention of the Music Hall Artists' Railway Association officials. With the present soaring expenditure and congestion of the traffic it behoves music hall artists to remember that matters are in a state of transition, and that, despite the present difficulties, precipitate action and thoughtlessness on the part of the travelling professional might result in conditions being made harder still.

ARE STARS TOO HIGHLY PAID?

THE VALUE OF A POPULAR TURN.

By TALBOT O'FARRELL.

Are variety stars overpaid? Decidedly not! Periodically we hear the plaint that in order to keep pace with increasing expenses the salaries of the leading artists must be reduced proportionately. Such a proposition is preposterous. I will give my reasons.

Every star who is a star had to serve many years of apprenticeship before he reached Stardom. He has to specialise in his work; he has, in short, to do something that no one else can do, or do it better than any one else. Even Prime Ministers don't have to do that, and whoever talks seriously of reducing their salaries?

In their earlier days the majority of artists began at very low salaries, and the so-called fabulous sums they receive to-day only serve to even up the salaries they received under their former contracts.

Instead of getting less money there are many reasons why they should get more. Every time I fill up my income-tax form I think I don't get enough.

Star's Average Existence.

What is the average life of a star? I should put it at seven years. Would he or she earn in seven years at an ordinary music hall much more than a mechanic at his trade? But the performer has to put in quite as long a service.

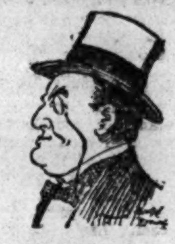
It took me fifteen years to reach the goal. At five minutes past eight on a certain Monday night I was practically unknown; at twenty-five minutes past I was a star. But I had to work out a long probation. Engineers ply their trade, but few become builders of bridges, and when they do no one denies them the affluent circumstances they thus achieve. The manager who declares that stars get too much forgets that that same star may have played many dates at a very small salary, quite inadequate to the value of the work he was supplying. And when do you hear of an artist getting a bonus for the work that he has done in years past?

The career of a star, I repeat, is very short. There are exceptions, such as Marie Lloyd and Little Tich. I am leaving out of account those stars whose brilliance is ephemeral—sensational acts who top the bill for a spell and then disappear from view like comets. A man can't rise to the top in twenty-five minutes; if he does, he doesn't remain there. As in my own case, he must have had years of struggling before he achieved fame, and during that time must have drawn sums to the box-office of which he never had a fair proportion.

The question resolves itself into a matter of box-office attraction. A man is worth exactly what he can draw. If a show does £1,500 in a week with a £100 star, and business is increased to £3,000 with a £200 star, then the £200 star is cheaper than the hundred pounder.

A Star Manufactory.

It is on record that at one time in America they tried to manufacture their own stars. They got several mediocre people, and billed them big, hoping that as in the case of the patent medicine they would make the public swallow them. They tried the system three or four years, but eventually had to ask the genuine stars to come back. They defeated their own ends, for when they returned the artists demanded more money—and got it.



AN IMPRESSION OF TALBOT O'FARRELL.

Payment by Results.

America is also credited with having instituted a system by which audiences should pay as they went out instead of on entry, and pay proportionately, according to the pleasure derived. It is needless for me to say that patrons went in laughing, but came out crying, and the show did not realise enough to pay for the lighting.

No; so far from getting too much money I contend that a music-hall star is worth every pen-stroke of his weekly cheque.

"HIS HAPPY HOME."

Farce, in Three Acts, by H. V Willoughby, Produced at the Comedy Theatre, Monday afternoon, Jan. 5.

Tommy Gibson	Kenneth Kent
Vera	Susie Vaughan
Mrs. Carrington	Helen Haye
Amy Allen	Mary Forbes
Frederic Peyton	John Wickens
Jimmy Allen	David Miller
Betty Carrington	Cathryn Young
Hall Porter	Frank Arlton
Michael	Leonard Shephard
Abd El Ramah	Ben Webster

"His Happy Home" is put on for twelve matinées. The interest it awakens is scanty, the improbabilities of the plot exceed even the limit of farce, and although there are clever people in the play, on the whole it cannot be said to be happily cast. True, here and there we find a neat turn of speech or a fanciful phrase that brings a smile to the lips, but for the most part the writing is singularly undistinguished.

The "home" which is ironically dubbed "happy" is a hot-bed of misunderstandings, cross questions and crooked answers, and other abortive mental growths. The owner, Jimmy Allen, is a mild, timid little man, much henpecked by a handsome young wife of amorous temperament and unreasonable temper. Amy, the wife, is indulging in a flirtation with Frederic Peyton, who is more than a bit of a Don Juan. She also confesses to a passion for a man she has never seen, Abd El Ramah, the Persian writer of erotic verse, published by Allen. Further, there is a flighty widow, Mrs. Carrington, with a rebellious daughter, Betty. In addition to an American accent, Betty boasts a studio of her own, and to help her old friend, Jimmy, to disillusion Amy, she gets Jimmy and the Persian to her studio, where they are all three discovered by Amy and Betty's fiancé, Tommy Gibson. Amy and Tommy put the worst construction on the presence of the two men, Betty rages, Jimmy runs in and out of rooms, and the Persian poet, seeking to disentangle the knot, ties it tighter than ever. One complication follows another, until, hey presto! as the time limit is reached, everybody becomes reasonable and listens to explanations that are only too obvious.

The two best parts are in the hands of Mr. David Miller, capital as the mild, bewildered, and well-meaning Jimmy, and Mr. Ben Webster, who gets plenty of humour out of the part of the poet of flowery speech and apt aphorisms. Miss Helen Haye works hard and with some success in the part of Mrs. Carrington; Miss Mary Forbes does her best with the ridiculous Amy; and Miss Cathryn Young and Mr. Kenneth Kent play the young lovers with plenty of spirit.

Mr. Leslie Ward (brother of Miss Dorothy Ward) has just concluded a 40 weeks' tour with "Tails Up." He has been re-engaged by Mr. F. G. Lloyd to play a leading part in his new light opera, "Rose of Araby," to be produced at Wimbledon on Feb. 9, prior to West End production.

FIRST NIGHTS OF THE WEEK.

A Thrilling "Crook" Drama—Witty and Coruscating Comedy.

"IN THE NIGHT."

Drama, by Cyril Harcourt, Founded on the French of Sommi Picenardi. Produced at the Kingsway Theatre, on Wednesday, Dec. 31.

Pauline Levardier	Jessie Winter
George Guerand	Reginald Owen
René Levardier	Alfred Drayton
Baptiste	F. B. J. Sharp
The Intruder	Leslie Faber
Marie	Elinor Hare
Commissaire Maurice	Clayton Greene
First Agent	Jack Farquhar
Second Agent	C. H. Langham
Francois	Edgar Ashley Marvin
First Clerk	Alec Northcote
Second Clerk	Frank Henderson

A new variation of the sympathetic criminal has been evolved by the makers of this rousing drama of crime and intrigue, and has been brilliantly visualised and elaborated by the actor, Mr. Leslie Faber. No attractive young man, with engaging ways, soulful eyes, and a burden of mute love, is this burglar. In appearance he is a well-bred, elderly roué, and is both a humorist and a sentimentalist. He is the most interesting person in a play that is full of interesting characters, which is excellently written, carefully constructed, and has very few weak spots. The most obvious requirements in a crook play are that the happenings should be of sufficient plausibility to pass muster, and also that the tension of the audience should be kept high from the rise to the fall of the curtain. In both, "In the Night" comes well up to the scratch.

The Eternal Triangle.

The elderly humorist who has chosen theft as a profession and frankly confesses that he has been a gentleman, but has outgrown that natural handicap, acts as *deus ex machina* to a pair of very fond and very foolish lovers, who are in a sore plight, partly owing to his habit of annexing other people's property. The lovers form the second and third side of one of the eternal triangles of the world, side No. 1 (the husband) being exceptionally "cold, brutal, cynical—in fact, Teutonic." He is René Levardier, an examining magistrate, devoted to his work, heart and soul, burning to rise in his profession. His beautiful young wife, Pauline, he treats with boorish lack of consideration, and she, with whom marriage had been *de convenance*, turns for consolation to young, impecunious George Guerand, her husband's friend. Guerand makes an honest effort to play the game, but opportunity and propinquity are too strong for him. Levardier is obliged to be away from home for a night, and George stays with Pauline until five o'clock in the morning. Their impassioned leave-taking is overheard by a mysterious intruder, who had just rifled Levardier's desk of a large sum of money that had been entrusted to him. Discovering the theft Pauline raises the alarm, and the police arrive a little ahead of Levardier. The man finds evidences of his wife's guilt, and, afire for revenge, fixes on her lover the theft of the notes. These are restored to Guerand by the real thief, when he finds that they are valueless so far as he is concerned. With the stolen notes once more in his possession, Levardier is still pitiless, and Guerand would have spent the best part of his life in gaol but for the intervention of the smiling "Intruder," who, in an interview that holds the house breathless, forces Levardier to forgo his revenge.

This interview in the last act provides one of the most exciting scenes in the play.

Mr. Leslie Faber distinguished himself by a remarkably clever piece of character acting, which was much to the taste of a highly appreciative audience, and has won for him unstinted and richly deserved praise. Admirable, too, is the René Levardier of Mr. Alfred Drayton, strong and consistent, and a delightful study of a faithful, gentle old valet is given by Mr. Edgar Ashley Marvin. Miss Jessie Winter's quiet, unforced method is invaluable to the part of Pauline, and in the emotional scenes she rises to a fine pitch of intensity. Mr. Reginald Owen plays Guerand skilfully and sympathetically; and Mr. Clayton Greene is good as Commissaire Maurice.

"MR. PIM PASSES BY."

Comedy in Three Acts, by A. A. Milne, Presented at the New Theatre, on Monday, Jan. 5.

Geo. Marden, J.P.	Mr. Ben Webster
Olivia	Miss Irene Vanbrugh
Dinah	Miss Georgette Cohan
Lady Marden	Miss Ethel Griffies
Brian Strange	Mr. Leslie Howard
Garraway Pim	Mr. Dion Boucicault
Anne	Miss Ethel Wellesley

Another witty, coruscating comedy from the pen of Mr. A. A. Milne, was given its first London production with conspicuous success at the New Theatre on Monday night.

The main idea is deliciously humorous. An amiable old dodderer with a Darwinian head, high, feeble pipe, an antiquely-shaped panama and a tightly clutched umbrella, drifts in and out of the lives of two people, George Marden, J.P., very English, superlatively conservative and conventional, and a real good fellow at heart, and his exquisite wife, Olivia, one of those delicious women that only Mr. Milne knows how to draw and that Miss Irene Vanbrugh knows how to play to the pitch of perfection. Gentle, vague old Mr. Pim brings temporary havoc into the calm existence of George and Olivia. They listen with charming politeness to a rambling story of a man who has been a fellow passenger on the boat that brought Mr. Pim from Australia, until fumblingly he recalls the name—Telworthy. It comes as a bolt from the blue, it is the name of Olivia's first husband, a scoundrel who has done time for forgery, and has been reported dead for six years. To George the news that Telworthy is alive is devastating. What will the county think when they hear that for five years he has lived with a woman who is not his wife? With all his dear British soul, George yearns to do the right thing. For him right and wrong have clearly marked boundaries. Olivia, after the first shock takes the news flippantly, a little too flippantly for such a sensitive and delightful woman. George's attitude towards the catastrophe makes her think, causes her to weigh him in the balance and find him after some horrible hesitation, a dear, good fellow whose love is worth keeping. The scenes in which Mr. Pim drifts in again to tell them that Telworthy died at Marseilles of a herring-bone that stuck in his throat, and another when Olivia learns that the dear old man's memory had played him a trick, and he had never met or known Telworthy at all are comedy scenes of the cleverest. Olivia making her stiff, rather pompous husband woo her all over again and using her advantage to twist him to her will, in minor matters, is as charming a bit of play writing and play acting as we remember for many a day. It would be difficult to overpraise Miss Irene Vanbrugh as Olivia. The part fits her to perfection, and her enchanting, delicate gift of comedy has seldom, indeed we think never, had a medium better fitted for its display. We liked Mr. Ben Webster better in the later scenes than in the first act. In his desire to subdue his usual easy, graceful style to the bluff obtuseness of George Marden, he became a little stilted and unnatural.

Mr. Dion Boucicault was admirable as old Pim. Miss Georgette Cohan showed considerable ability if a little too much exuberance as one of a pair of young lovers, and Mr. Leslie Howard was excellent as the other. Miss Ethel Griffies was very good as the masculine lady of 65 who glorified in her age.

Mr. Leslie Harris gave a very pleasant half-hour's entertainment to start the evening.

AS YOU LIKE IT.

Some New Year wishes.

* * *

To actors and actresses: May your year roll with good parts and part with bad rôles.

* * *

To scene-shifters: May you never let your back-drop.

* * *

To members of the orchestra: Keep looking up.

* * *

To the box-office keeper: Many happy "returns."

* * *

I hope the scheme to simplify our confusing calendar will come off soon. The English calendar is Anno Domini 1920, the Jewish Anno Mundi 5680, and His Majesty's Chu Chin Chow 4!

* * *

"Cinderella" is described by one critic as a breathless production. That must be why they are called pant-omimes.

* * *

The "cubists" are on the warpath again, advocating square suits! What must they be like? I've heard of dress circles.

* * *

Ladies are presiding at two Courts now—Mary Grey at "The Merchant of Venice" one, and Councillor Mrs. Ada Summers at Stalybridge.

* * *

Pessimists are calling the world black. But never mind—the World's Fair at Islington.

* * *

1st Thespian: "I can always tell a bad actor when I meet him."
2nd Thespian: "Yes—but it's kindest not to."

* * *

Good luck to the unsuccessful acrobat who writes me that he has resolved to make 1920 his turning point!

TOUCHSTONE.

WHAT'S ON IN TOWN.

ADELPHI (Strand, W.C.).—"Who's Hooper?" 8. Wed., Sat., 2. Gerr. 2645.

ALDWYCH (Strand, W.C.).—"Sacred and Profane Love," 8.15. Thurs., Sat., 2.30. Gerr. 2315.

ALHAMBRA (Leicester-sq., W.C.). —"Tarzan of the Apes" and "Daddy Long Legs," 2.30 and 7.30. Gerr. 5064-5. Reg. 2522.

AMBASSADORS (Cambridge Circus, W.C.).—"Sylvia's Lovers," 8.15. Tues., Sat., 2.30. Gerr. 4460.

APOLLO (Shaftesbury-avenue, W.). "Tilly of Bloomsbury," 8. Tues., Thu Sat., 2.30. Gerr 3243.

COMEDY (Panton-st.).—"Three Wise Fools," 8.30. Tues., Sat., 2.45. "His Happy Home," daily (except Tues. and Sat.), 2.30. Gerr. 3724.

COURT (Sloane-sq., S.W.).—"Merchant of Venice," 8. Wed., Sat., 2. Gerr. 848.

COVENT GARDEN (Covent Garden, W.C.).—"Hamlet," 8, Wed., Sat., 2.30. Gerr. 640-641.

CRITERION (Coventry-st.). — "Lord Richard in the Pantry," 8.30. Tues., Sat., daily, 2.30. Gerr. 3844.

DALY'S (Leicester-sq.).—"The Maid of the Mountains," 8. Tues., Sat., 2. Gerr. 202.

DRURY LANE (Drury-lane, W.C.).—"Cinderella," 1.30 and 7.30. Gerr. 2588.

DUKE OF YORK'S (St. Martin's-lane, W.C.).—"Arms and the Man," 8.30. Thurs., Sat., 2.30. "Les Precieuses Ridicules," Tues., Wed., 2.30. Gerr. 314.

EMPIRE (Leicester-sq.).—"The Red Mill," 8.30, Thurs., Sat., 2.30. Gerr. 3527.

GAIETY (Strand, W.C.).—"The Kiss Call," 8. Wed., Sat., 2.15. Gerr. 2780.

GARRICK (St. Martin's-lane, W.C.).—"The Eclipse," 8.15. Wed., Sat., 2.30. Gerr. 9513.

GLOBE (Shaftesbury-av.).—"The Voice from the Minaret," 8.15. Wed., Sat., 2.15. Gerr. 8722.

HAYMARKET (Haymarket, S.W. 1).—"Daddies," 8.30. Wed., Thurs., Sat., 2.30. Reg. 6030.

HIS MAJESTY'S (Haymarket, S.W. 1).—"Chu Chin Chow," 8. Daily, 2.15. Gerr. 1777.

KENNINGTON (Kennington Park-road).—"Aladdin, 2.15 and 7.45.

KINGSWAY (Gt. Queen-st., W.C. 2).—"In the Night," 8.30. Mon., Tues., Fri., 2.30. Gerr. 4032.

LONDON PAVILION (Piccadilly-circus, W.).—"Afgar," 8.20. Tues., Sat., 2.30. Gerr. 704-5.

LYCEUM (Wellington-st., W.C.).—"Dick Whittington," 2 and 7. Gerr. 7617.

LYRIC (Shaftesbury-avenue, W.).—"The Bird of Paradise," 8. Wed., Sat., 2.15. Gerr. 3687.

NEW (St. Martin's-lane).—"Peter Pan," 2. "Mr. Pim Passes By," 8. Reg. 4466.

OXFORD (Oxford-st., W.).—"Maggie," 8.15. Thurs., Sat., 2.30.

PALACE (Shaftesbury-avenue). — "The Whirligig," 8.30. Wed., Thurs., Sat., 2.30. Gerr. 6834.

PLAYHOUSE (Charing Cross, W.C.).—"Home and Beauty," 8.30. Thurs., Sat., 2.30.

PRINCE OF WALES (Coventry-st., W.). —"Bran Pie," 8. Wed., Fri., Sat., 2.15. Gerr. 7482.

PRINCES (Shaftesbury-avenue). — Gilbert & Sullivan Rep. Season, 8.15. Wed., Sat., 2.30.

QUEEN'S (Shaftesbury-avenue).—"The Cinderella Man," 8.15. Thurs., Sat., 2.30. Gerr. 9437.

ROYALTY (Dean-st., W. 1).—"Charley's Aunt," 2.30 and 8. Gerr. 3855.

ST. MARTIN'S (West-street, W.C. 2).—"Once Upon a Time," 7.30 and 2.30. Gerr. 1243.

SAVOY (Strand, W.C.).—"Tiger Rose," 8.15. Mon., Wed., Sat., 2.15. Gerr. 3366-7.

SCALA (Tottenham Court-road).—"Fifinella," Thurs., Sat., 8. Daily, 2. Museum 6010-11.

SHAFTESBURY (Shaftesbury-avenue, W.C.).—"Baby Bunting," 8. Wed., Sat., 2.15. Gerr. 6666.

STRAND (Strand, W.C.).—"The Crimson Alibi," 8.30. Wed., Sat., 2.30. Gerr. 3452-3.

VAUDEVILLE (Strand, W.C. 2).—"Buzz Buzz," 8.15. Tues., Thurs., Sat., 2.30. Gerr. 3815.

WINTER GARDEN THEATRE (Drury-lane, W.C.).—"Kissing Time," 8. Thurs., Sat., 2.15. Gerr. 416.

WYNDHAM'S (Charing Cross-road, W.C.).—"The Choice," 8.15. Wed., Thurs., Sat., 2.30.

VARIETY THEATRES.

COLISEUM (Charing Cross).—Loie Fuller, Two Bobs, Bransby Williams, Frank Elliston in "Dear Old Bean," Mary Leighton, Jack McKay, 2.30 and 7.45. Gerr. 7541.

HIPPODROME (Leicester-square).—"Joy Bells," 2.30 and 8.30. Gerr. 650.

PALLADIUM (Argyll-street, W.). — Marie Lloyd, Lorna and Toots Pounds, Geo. Mozart, Tom Stuart, Sammy Shields, Knapp and Cornalla, Hetty King, Yvonne Granville, Laveen and Cross, Elkins, Fay and Elkins, Eldon Trio, 2.30, 6, 8.45. Gerr. 7004.

VICTORIA PALACE (Victoria Station, S.W.).—"Where the Rainbow Ends," daily, 2. Margaret Cooper, Gus Elen, Poluski and Mott, Jack Lane, 6.15 and 8.50.

THEY SAY——

That George Robey has a new mascot that has already brought him three strokes of luck.

* * *

That C. B. Cochran does not think much of American whisky.

* * *

That Geraldine Farrar once vowed she would never marry.

* * *

That Lupino Lane is receiving the biggest salary for his age in pantomime in Great Britain.

* * *

That Billy Merson has lost a portmanteau containing all his make-up and effects for his song "Signora."

* * *

That we may have more circuses and fewer pantomimes during the next few years.

* * *

That nearly ten million picture postcards of Gabrielle Ray, including a thousand different poses, have been sold by one company.

* * *

That Edmée Dormeuil is a 'Varsity graduate and holds the B.A. degree.

* * *

That Mr. Sydney Hill, acting manager of the Shaftesbury Theatre, possesses more bullet-holes than any other theatrical manager in the world.

* * *

That one of Lionel Barrymore's pet aversions is matinées.

* * *

That the rumour concerning Violet Hopson's retirement from the screen is without a word of truth.

THE VARIETY WORLD.

L.T.V. and Demobilised Officers—Water Rats' Installation Banquet—Railway Charges for Luggage—Tribute to War Heroes.

The Gulliver Way.

Mr. Charles Gulliver, the managing director of London Theatres of Varieties, has devised an excellent scheme for demobilised officers. Positions at each of the sixteen halls under his control will be created, and successful applicants, providing they display aptitude for the fulfilment of the position, will receive a definite engagement for twelve months. At each of Mr. Gulliver's halls there is a manager and assistant manager, and the officer engaged will be thoroughly taught the duties of both. At the conclusion of the engagement Mr. Gulliver expects that each officer will be fully qualified to take a position of manager at any of the 5,000 places of entertainment in the United Kingdom.

Salary will be paid during tuition at the rate of £5 per week. It should be understood that these positions are only open to officers who have lost an eye, an arm, or leg, or who have sustained other severe injuries, which are often a serious bar to their obtaining employment in other professions. The Ministry of Labour Appointments Department, Horrex's Hotel, sent Mr. Gulliver particulars of twenty-three applicants. Appointments were made with twelve, who were personally interviewed by Mr. Gulliver, and five were selected for engagement. There are still eleven positions vacant. Applications for these should be made to the Ministry of Labour, Appointments Department, Horrex's Hotel, Strand. Mr. Gulliver's scheme is undoubtedly a step in the right direction towards the solving of the unemployment problem of incapacitated officers, and is to be highly commended. Of the other employees in Mr. Gulliver's theatres over 10 per cent. served in the war.

The Clapham Grand to be Grander.

That popular twice-nightly variety house, the Grand, at Clapham Junction, is being extensively renovated. Indeed, Charles Gulliver's able and enthusiastic manager thereof, namely, J. Joseph-Ellis, has recently described (and shown) to an "Era" man the splendid new alterations, improvements, repairs, and decorations now in progress there during all the intervals between the twice-nightly shows. The new Grand will, indeed, be a very grand Grand.

Water Rats' Banquet.

The Grand Order of Water Rats met at the Vaudeville Club on Sunday last for the Installation Ceremony and Banquet, the officers elected for 1920 being as follows: King Rat, Deane Tribune; Prince Rat, Geo. Sanford; Scribe Rat, W. H. McCarthy; Test Rat, Bert Bernard; Musical Rat, J. W. Knowles; Bait Rat, Sammy Shields; Collecting Rat, Harry Barrett. There was a large muster present, the retiring officers being presented with jewels. After the banquet, some very enjoyable harmony was provided, Chas. Austin, Neil Kenyon, Adam Tomlinson, Sammy Shields, Tom Hughes, Gus Garrick, Alf Leonard, Ryder Slone, Harry Blake, Dave O'Toole, and others contributing to the entertainment Altogether a very jolly evening.

Clever Comedienne Ill.

That vivacious variety artist and burlesque actress, Rachel Lowe (Mrs. Charles Warren), has, we regret to learn, had to go into a nursing home for awhile to recruit from an attack of illness following a dental operation of some severity. Happily, at the moment of our going to press, the clever little lady was improving.

Railway Charges for Luggage.

Members of the Music Hall Artists' Railway Association are informed that on and after the 20th inst. the charges for the conveyance of luggage on all railways will be as follows:—2 cwt. free first class; 1 cwt. free third class. All luggage over that amount will be excessed at parcel rates, which will be 50 per cent. in advance of the present rates, and no free trucks will be allowed for parties less than 21 in number.

A Variety Artists' Memorial.

A belated tribute to the members of the variety profession was made on Wednesday, when Mr. Harry Thurston, who has for so long been associated with the part of "Old Bill" on the halls, placed a wreath at the foot of the Cenotaph in Whitehall. The wreath consists of an enormous lyre composed of evergreens, and outlined in violets is the inscription: "In everlasting memory of our glorious dead of the music hall world." Attached was a card inscribed "From Mr. and Mrs. Harry Thurston."

Victoria Palace Meeting.

Sir Alfred Butt, presiding at the meeting of shareholders of the Victoria Palace, Ltd., on Friday last, said that they had every reason to be satisfied with the result of the year. The net profit amounted to £43,261, and they were recommending the payment of a dividend of 25 per cent., less income-tax. He would like to point out that the relations between the staff and the management were eminently satisfactory. After referring to the recent dispute in the theatrical world, Sir Alfred said there was a prospect of arbitration in the variety world, as distinct from the theatrical world, and he hoped the employees would recognise that if they had any grievances they would submit them through their recognised leaders. Managers could not deal with individuals, and if the employers appealed to a trade union—personally he was in favour of trade unions—they should, in his opinion, leave the matters in dispute in the hands of the leaders of that union.

Children's Party at the South London.

By the courtesy of the directors of the South London Palace, who loaned the hall, and through the untiring efforts of Mr. W. Hill, the popular manager, a very successful New Year's party was given here on the afternoon of New Year's Day to between 2,500 and 3,000 children of Southwark, inmates of Southwark Poor Law institutions also being invited. Mr. Hill, with the aid of the South's staff, who volunteered their services and worked very hard, was enabled to provide for his guests an excellent programme of music, songs, and a cinema show, in which Charley Chaplin was a conspicuous figure, whilst a film depicting the adventures of "Jack and the Beanstalk" was much appreciated. Each kiddie's heart was also gladdened by a present of a bag containing sweets, fruit, and a cake.

Amongst the artists who appeared were Miss Flora Cromer, Mr. Tom Watson, Miss Marie Fleming, Mr. Hill, jun., Norman and Jackson, and Terry's Juveniles. Funds for the purpose of this New Year's party had been collected from the patrons of the South London, local tradesmen, and artists who had been appearing at this hall for the last few weeks. At the close the children gave three hearty cheers for Mr. Hill and all concerned.

Bon Voyage.

Horace Reeves, of F. and H. Reeves and Lamport, tells us that he is sailing for America again on the "Mauretania" on January 17.

Merrily Monte Carlo-ing.

Among the gladsome group of theatrical and variety stars seeking strenuously to "break the bank" at Monte Carlo is that delightful and versatile damsel, Violet Loraine. "Vi" (as her brother and sister artists always call her) having done with "Eastward Ho!" determined to go awhile Southward Ho!

An Alhambra Concert.

In aid of that splendid charity, the Ladies' Theatrical Guild, Owen Nares has arranged, all on his own account, a grand concert, to be given at the Alhambra at 3 p.m. next Sunday week. The programme already promises to be a brilliant blend of theatrical and variety stars.

The Alhambra's Next Revue.

The new revue to be presented at the Alhambra, when the pending Bernard Hishin production, "Medorah," has to remove elsewhere, will be written by Harry M. Vernon, and set to music by M. Charles Cuvillier. H. M. V., it will be remembered, had a good deal to do with certain previous Alhambra revues. This is the revue in which George Robey returns to the Alhambra.

"I Know Where the Flies Go in the Winter Time."

Sam Mayo and John P. Harrington have written, and the Herman Darewski Co. have in the press, a screamingly funny sequel to the great pantomime song, "Where Do Flies Go in the Winter Time?" entitled "I Know Where the Flies Go in the Winter Time," which bids fair to become one of the forthcoming spring and summer seasons' biggest rages, both on the halls and with concert parties.

V.A.F.F. Dinner.

Viscount Burnham, C.H., has kindly consented to occupy the chair at the third annual dinner in aid of the Variety Artists' Benevolent Fund, to be held on Sunday, Feb. 1, at the Savoy Hotel, and to which ladies are specially invited. Tickets, price £2 2s. (inclusive of wine), can now be obtained on application to the secretary, 18, Charing Cross-road. Small private tables for parties of eight will be reserved on early application being made. Several distinguished gentlemen have been asked to speak, and a special entertainment is being arranged.

Sam Mayo at Billiards.

For the Amateur Billiard Championship of England, which is being held at Orme's Hall, Soho-square, W., Sam Mayo is, we hear, the only representative of the varieties profession playing. Judging from his past record, Sam is sure to put up a good show when he meets A. L. Onslow next Tuesday evening for the heat of 2,000 up. Best of luck. Sam is at the Holborn Empire this week, and on Monday was in great form, his reception being of the heartiest.

Congratulations.

Tom Barrasford, of Lake and Barrasford, will, we hear, be married on Monday next at St. John's Church, Leeds, to Cissie Noble, of The Four Its. The guests, numbering over seventy, will be entertained afterwards at the Victory Restaurant. The boys are due at the Ardwick Empire next week.

Warning to Artists.

Gus Fowler, the "Watch King," tells us that on Thursday last he had a new overcoat, value 15 guineas, stolen from the hat stand in a café near the Strand. The pockets contained articles to the value of £3, in addition to loose change. The proprietors do not hold themselves responsible, and Gus says that if places like these do not possess a cloak room it is advisable to sit on your overcoat while you eat.

Emilie Hayes.

Miss Emilie Hayes, who is playing the Hippodrome, Bristol, this week, has added "God, Keep You, Dearest Heart," the successful new ballad by D. Cameron Forrester and Henry E. Pether, to her repertoire.

Fred Bevan.

We hear that Fred Bevan, the popular manager who was connected with the L.T.V. circuit for five years, has recently resigned, and is now open to entertain offers for a similar position in London or the provinces. Fred was until recently manager at the Willesden Hippodrome, prior to which he was at Ilford for a time. Before joining the Service, he was manager at the Kilburn Empire for some time.

A Popular Director.

Presiding at the New Year's party to the staff and friends at the Palace, Bath last Wednesday, Mr. W. S. Pearce, the popular director, said he could not let the occasion pass without thanking the staff for their loyalty and devotion to him during the past year. No music hall in the provinces was better served. As they knew, he personally had had an anxious and hard-worked time during the war, and up to the present. The strain had told upon him, especially in the winter. He had had several breakdowns, which had kept him from the hall, and now they had a full staff again, he proposed, in a few weeks' time, to take a trip to South America, which, he hoped, would have the effect of bucking him up for some time to come. During his absence overseas extra strain would be thrown upon Mr. C. Wallace and Mr. Laing, but he felt sure that the whole of the staff would do everything in their power to help these splendid officials while he was away on a two months' holiday. "If necessary," he added, "additional assistance will be forthcoming."

Knapp and Cornalla.

Those versatile boys, Bob. Knapp and Chris Cornalia, are making their first West End appearance, and their reception on Monday afternoon at the Palladium must have been very gratifying. Since they scored such a great success on their opening in town at Shepherd's Bush a couple of months ago, the boys have been to Paris and the provinces, and have everywhere made good. Horace Reeves, who brought them over from America, tells us that the boys have been secured for all the leading tours for the next two years.

Jean Andrews.

Miss Jean Andrews, the "Golden-voiced Soprano," who was at Shepherd's Bush last week, has made rapid progress since her first appearance on the variety stage less than six months ago, as, with the exception of a few weeks, she is booked for the whole of this year on the leading tours, including the Stoll and L.T.V. Tours. In three weeks' time she will make her first appearance at the London Coliseum. Last Sunday evening she appeared at the Stoll Picture House, where she was given a very hearty reception.

Dollie and Billie.

Making their first appearance in this country at the Chiswick Empire a fortnight ago, where they proved such a great hit, Dollie and Billie, America's premier juvenile duo, are repeating their success this week at the Shepherd's Bush Empire, at which house the patrons are giving them a very enthusiastic reception for their refined entertainment. Within the next week or two they will be seen in the West End. Henderson's Agency are to be congratulated on their find.

Harry Shiels in Town.

At the Hippodrome, Rotherhithe, this week Harry Shiels is presenting his new sketch, "Empties," for the first time in London. It deals with the further adventures of Old Bill after the war, and should prove a worthy successor to "Bill in a Fix," which had a three years' run. We hear that the show is well booked up, and has only a few weeks vacant this year. Harry is ably assisted in the sketch by Nora Harrington and Fred Dunstone.

Hilda Mundy.

We are pleased to hear that Hilda Mundy, the versatile revue artist, has now recovered from her recent illness, and is open to accept offers for revue or musical comedy.

The Poluskis.

The latest skit presented by that popular couple Will and Sam Poluski, who appear as the private and an officer, contains some very bright and amusing material concerning Army life, and their few appearances at the Coliseum last week were to be regretted, as the patrons were highly amused with their show, one of the best skits they have played. The reason they were unable to appear at the Coliseum after Tuesday was because they were also playing at Chiswick, and were unable to get back in time to the Coliseum. They will doubtless be seen at the big St. Martin's-lane house shortly.

Doris Ashton.

That delightful young soprano, Doris Ashton, is back in town this week at the Chiswick Empire, and after playing at South Shields next week, will commence a season in London. It is, we hear, probable that we shall see Doris in a West-End pantomimes next season, as she is at the moment considering a very tempting offer.

Yvonne Granville.

Mlle. Yvonne Granville has recently returned from a brief holiday in Paris, where she has been on a visit to her mother. At the Stratford Empire last week Mlle. Granville introduced some new numbers, which were very successful. They are entitled "Come to Paris With Me" and "Pierette," and are being sung by the popular artist at the Palladium this week.

Penrose and Whitlock.

Those "Jolly Old Sports," Penrose and Whitlock, who were in town last week at Shepherd's Bush, will not be in London again till May next, when they will be at Finsbury Park. In August they will make their first appearance on the L.T.V. Circuit.

Fred Duprez in Vaudeville.

At the Empire, Newcastle, this week, the popular American comedian, Fred Duprez, commences a tour of the Moss' Empires, and will be seen in town at Finsbury Park next month. Last week Fred had two offers for West End shows, but decided to carry out his variety dates for the present.

Jen Latona.

At Collins's this week Jen Latona will introduce a new item, "The Mince Pie Rag," which has been specially composed by Frank Latona and E. S. Newton, who have supplied Jen with other successful numbers, including "Maddy From Ohio."

Keighley Hippodrome Social.

The staff of the Hippodrome, Keighley, were entertained to a social and dance at the invitation of the manager, Mr. J Austin Walshaw, on Christmas Eve. During an interval in the dancing Mr. Harold Laycock presented Mr. Walshaw with a silver flower vase as a token of the cordial relations which exist between the management and staff. Mr. Walshaw acknowledged the gift in a happy little speech.

Fred Curran.

We are glad to hear that Fred Curran has recovered from the slight indisposition which prevented him from playing at Hanley the other week. On Monday next Fred goes to the Grand, Bolton, after which he returns to the L.T.V. tour for a season.

Talbot O'Farrell.

The genial and popular Irish entertainer, Talbot O'Farrell, should have started for America last week-end, but his sailing has been postponed for the second time, and is now fixed for the 17th inst., when he sails on the Mauretania. This postponement leaving two weeks open, Talbot's services were immediately secured by Sir Oswald Stoll, end at the Shepherd's Bush Empire last week his reception was of the heartiest description. This week Talbot is making his last appearances in town at Wood Green and the Bedford.

Gus Harris.

At the Empire, Birmingham, last week, Gus Harris, the Hebrew comedian, introduced a new dramatic musical monologue entitled "Palestine," scoring an immediate success with the number, which he put over in fine style. After playing Manchester this week, Gus returns to town, and will open on the L.T.V. at Poplar.

MY MUSIC HALL TOUR.

HOW WE WON THE WAR—A PLEA FOR CRICKET—LAUGHTER AND LOVE AT THE HOLBORN.

If you want to know why we won the war, you must go and see "Hush Secrets." It is described as the most awe-inspiring development of modern science yet evolved, and by all that creeps 'tis uncanny!

At the Victoria Palace.

Captain Roberts, R.N.A.S., is, we are told, one of the men whose inventions played havoc with enemy submarines and aircraft, and he gives a demonstration, on a small scale, of how some of these results were achieved.

His mediums are Light and Sound. He holds up an electric torch, allows the rays to fall upon various objects, and bells tinkle, gongs ring, and lights are switched on and off. He blows a whistle, and a balloon bursts. Most astonishing of all, he whistles a small motor-car on to the stage, and works it entirely by his whistle. The motor acts just as though it was mesmerised, turning this way and that, stopping, starting off again, and implicitly obeying the Captain's every toot.

I confess to one or two unpleasant moments, as when Captain Roberts flashed his light into the auditorium of the Victoria Palace last week, where I witnessed his performance, and obtained effects from various parts of the house. Sometimes the long thin streams of light went shooting perilously near me, and I felt certain that, if I were hit, a gong would go off in my chest, or my kneecap would tinkle. Happily, there were no casualties, and while we applauded the Captain for his astonishing discoveries, we also prayed fervently that we had really and truly and honestly seen the last war, and no mistake about it.

Those two Scotch humorists, Neil Kenyon and Sammy Shields, were great favourites, and I was glad to find that Neil's cold had so improved that he was able to give us a double dose of himself—to wit and to boot, "McBean, Philosopher," and the delightful stationmaster of Dunrobbin—and Sammy was also in a lavish mood. Despite his football enthusiasm, Sammy does not seem able to reduce his "superfluous area." He suggested that Captain Roberts should play his magic torch on him, but the Captain did not oblige; he had probably gone home to think out some more terrifying contrivances.

Has Sammy Shields got a contract with the Football Association? If not, the M.C.C. ought to get hold of him for the summer to give cricket a little boost up. He could do it, and cricket needs some encouraging. Will you think about it, Sammy?

I greatly enjoyed George Calver's imitation of a hen imitating Harry Lauder singing "Stop Your Tickling, Jock." It was capital, and so was his imitation of a little girl singing "What a Little Bird Told Me." Child imitations are always amusing, but they rarely show children at their best. In fact, the children usually chosen by the imitators are abominable little brutes!

Mabel Mann seems to be increasingly popular. She can nearly always sing a couple of songs, and then count upon a couple of encores, which was what happened at the Victoria Palace. I liked her best in her serious songs, to which her voice is better suited than to songs requiring a lighter touch. Another popular singer was Flora Cromer, whose vivacious cockneyisms went down well. Tom Brodrick and Wells and Mayban were enjoyed among the other good things, and I paid the trick cyclists, Nicol and Martin, the compliment of sitting their performance out to the end, though I had seen them recently. They were the last on the programme, and time pressed.

At the Holborn Empire.

It's a bit of a step from the Victoria Palace to the Holborn Empire, but I was rushed there by an obliging chauffeur, and deposited in time to see the tail end of the Two Junes. I greatly regretted to have missed their act. Other clever dancing turns included Robins and Courtney and the Four Kemptons.

The singers were Ernie Mayne, Harry Champion, Esta Stella, and the Lyrical Players. Humour in abundance issued from the former; the latter supplied the love element. The Lyrical Players, who continually seem to be altering their number and composition, now include two maids and a man. One of the maids plays the piano, obligingly leaving the other maid for the man to make love to. He does it very gallantly, and as they both have excellent voices, they are well matched. Esta Stella made flagrant love to the occupants of boxes, putting one man in such a flutter that he nearly fell out into the orchestra.

Percy Honri, with his concertina, never has any difficulty in getting across the footlights, and got on particularly good terms with his audience by wishing us all a happy new year. The Great Maurice also scored with his neat card tricks. I would like to describe the sketch, "One Good Turn," but must reserve this for a future occasion. I shall probably strike it again before long. Meanwhile, let me briefly say that it really was a good turn, and that Henry Hallatt played the part of an inebriated man very effectively.

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Purcella Boys at the Palace.

The Purcella Boys, who have been playing for some weeks at the Marigny Theatre, Paris, were on Saturday, the 27th ult., requested by Mr. Albert De Courville to return to London at once, as he wanted them for "Whirligig" at the Palace. They arrived in town on the Monday evening in time to have a look at the show, making their appearance at the matinée on the Tuesday. When we looked in on Saturday evening the Boys were meeting with a very hearty reception.

Arthur Royce.

We hear that Arthur Royce has just written and composed a new song for Miss Marie Lloyd, entitled "You Cannot Place Old Heads Upon Young Shoulders," and that it promises to be a very successful number.

The Five Sisters.

The Five Sisters, who are playing their fifth return to the Palace, Sunderland, this week, are working all new numbers. They are going to Scotland for two months with their novel vocal and instrumental act, and carry with them a beautiful stage setting.

"Melody and Rags."

The new act, "Melody and Rags," was certainly an acquisition to the programme at the Palace, Burnley, last week. It is presented in beautiful surroundings of purple and gold, with cushion divans. The costumes are in the Turkish style, and embody a delightful colour scheme, the whole show going with a swing from first to last. The vocal numbers are written and composed by Ralph Stanley and Leslie Alleyne, and will, we hear, be published by Francis Day and Hunter almost immediately. The violin solo played by Violet Vaughan and composed by Gerald Buchanan, the pianiste in the show, is a charming number, and this act should soon be seen in the West End.

Jack Sterzelly.

Jack Sterzelly, with his human dog "Lucky," headed a strong programme at the Kemble Theatre, Hereford, last week, and met with a very hearty reception. Whilst the entire act positively bristles with cleverness, the dog's performance at the grand piano is little short of marvellous.

Miss Rosie Reys.

Miss Rosie Reys, the popular contralto, writes of the big success she is making with the Lawrence Wright Company's numbers. "Back From the Land of Yesterday" is always a favourite, and at the Workman's Hall, Ferndale, this week, Miss Reys is breaking all records.

Music Hall Ladies' Guild.

The committee desire to thank the following for their generous contributions to the children's Christmas party:—Mr. Austin O'Connor, £5; Mr. Walter Ram, 10s. 6d.; Miss F. G. Clark, for her annual subscription of 2s. 6d. Mrs. Charles Coborn is also thanked for her very useful parcel of underclothing. Men's, women's, and children's clothing is urgently needed by the Guild, and will be gratefully received at 18, Charing Cross-road, W.C. 2.

Arrangements are rapidly moving regarding the matinée which is to be held on Feb. 17 in aid of the funds of the Guild at the Prince of Wales Theatre, when a star programme will be submitted.

The Terriers.

At the meeting on Sunday last Stanley J. Damerell officiated as W.T., Jimmy Halma as V.T., Capt. A. De'Villiers G.C., Walter Norman W.I., Joe Adkin W.D., Herbert Lecardo Y.B., Cyril Yettmah organist, and Arthur Were secretary.

A hearty welcome was extended to Herbert Lecardo, Fred Dunstone, and Harry Bent upon their reappearance in the Kennel.

The following applications for membership have been received:—First notice: Will Austa (comedian and dancer); second notice: Billy Wynne (acrobat); third notice: Bert Grahame (comedian).

Terrier Stanley Damerell was presented with a P.W.T. jewel for services rendered.

The annual general meeting will be held on Sunday, Feb. 15, in the Lodge at 8 p.m. sharp. All nominations for office must be proposed and seconded respectively by two members, and sent to the secretary by Jan. 15. Due notice of any resolution for discussion at the general meeting must be forwarded by Feb. 8, 1920.

Billy Harding and Jimmie Guidery are asked to send present address.

The Lodge will be closed on Sunday, Jan. 25, 1920, owing to the V.A.F. meeting being held on that date.

All members in town on Sunday next are asked to attend the meeting of the Order, as important initiations are expected.

OLD FOLKS' DINNER AT "BRINSWORTH."

The twelfth of the series of New Year Day dinners and concerts given to the pensioners of the Variety Artistes' Benevolent Fund and the inmates of the Institution—first instituted in 1908 by Mr. Chas. Douglas Stuart, the secretary—was held on Jan. 1 at "Brinsworth," Twickenham, when nearly 70—a larger number than usual—old music hall artists were entertained to a substantial dinner consisting of soup, turkey and ham, plum pudding and mincepies, cheese and dessert. Owing to the large number present, the repast had to be held in three separate rooms, but all the company assembled in the smoking room for the concert, prior to the starting of which a briar pipe and an ounce of tobacco was given out to each of the men and cigarettes to the ladies.

Joe Elvin, the founder of the institution, presided, being supported by the following members of the executive committee and officials of the Benevolent Fund:—Messrs. J. W. Cragg (hon. trustee), Harry Blake (hon. treasurer), W. H. Atlas (Vice-chairman), Harry Marlow, Monte Bayly, Ken Barton, Alf. Herald, and C. Douglas Stuart (secretary). Among those who kindly came down specially to entertain the guests were Ben Brown, who went to the trouble of "making up," and gave a very enjoyable and reminiscent "turn" as a negro comedian, Miss Mary Clarke, Mrs. F. M. Tapply, Miss Helen Brinckman, Miss Nora Atlas, and Mr. Harry Blake, with his new "Pussyfoot Ditty." The remaining items of the greatly appreciated programme were given by the following "stars" of a past generation: Frank Folley, Sailor Ward, Mabel Vine, Nellie Gannon, Fred Harrington, Harry Paulo, Edgar Wilson, Ralph Edgar, Jennie Russell and Jimmy Seddon. Mr. Harry Sutch was, as usual, the efficient pianist.

During the afternoon a few toasts were honoured, these being "Success and Prosperity to our Home," proposed by the chairman, "The Visitors," proposed by Mr. Harry Marlow and responded to by the Rev. F. M. Tapply, "The Ladies," proposed by Mr. Harry Blake, and replied to by Miss Lottie Albert, "The Superintendent and Matron, Mr. and Mrs. Chas. Thornton," proposed by Mr. J. W. Cragg, which was drank with enthusiasm, as was also that of "Our Chairman, Mr. Joe Elvin," proposed by Mr. W. H. Atlas, musical honours being given to both of these.

Among the visitors present were the Rev. F. M. Tapply (hon. chaplain to the Institution) and Mrs. Tapply, Mr. and Mrs. W. R. Dunkley, Mrs. Marjorie Ward, Miss Rosie Alexander, Mrs. J. W. Cragg, Mrs. Harry Blake, Miss Vulcana, Miss Lottie Albert, Miss Laurence, Mrs. Fred W. Millis, Mrs. Rose, Miss C. Bayly and Mrs. Pat Carey.

A telegram expressing loyalty and homage in remembrance of the Royal Command Performance at the Coliseum was dispatched to Their Majesties the King and Queen, and the following gracious message was received in reply: "I am desired to express His Majesty's thanks for the loyal message you have addressed to him. The King wishes all present a Happy New Year.—Private Secretary." Telegrams were also sent to H.R.H. Princess Louise, Duchess of Argyll, to George Robey, the President of the Fund, ordered his Loving Cup to be filled with George Graves, Past President (who had wine for his health to be drunk), wishing him happy returns of his birthday that day, and to Messrs. Dewar and Sons, for generous gift of a case of whisky.

Ray and Calden.

Harry Ray and Lillie Calden have made a great success with their pantomime, "Babes and Robin Hood," at the Grand Theatre, Nottingham. They run for five weeks at Nottingham, and then go to Keighley, Doncaster, Leeds, and Liverpool. They are also busy with a new production entitled "Keep it Going," which they will produce in March. Harry Ray and Lillie Calden will appear in the cast.

A Popular Manager.

Mr. J. Nelson, the popular manager of the Leeds Empire, has just completed twelve months' service at that hall, and in order to show their appreciation the staff and patrons have presented him with a leather wallet containing notes for a substantial amount. The presentation was made on New Year's Day after the second house by Mr. F. A. Jolley, the assistant manager, Mr. Nelson suitably responding.

◆

In our notice of the Grand, Brighton, pantomime we stated that Mr. Freddie Foss was singing "I Must be Married by Twelve o'clock To-night." It is Mr. Reg. Wentworth who is singing the song, which for the time being is his sole property. Mr. Wentworth is also singing "Mandy and Me" and "Panama."

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THAT WONDERFUL MOTHER OF MINE
HOW 'YA GONNA KEEP 'EM DOWN ON THE FARM
MAMMY O' MINE
IF YOU'RE IRISH COME INTO THE PARLOUR
HAVE A SMILE
CALIFORNIA AND YOU
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FUZZY WUZZY WOO
IF THERE HADN'T HAVE BEEN A GARDEN OF EDEN
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THE LONDON MUSIC HALLS.

THE COLISEUM.

The one sketch at the Coliseum this week is Fennimore Glynn's "Dear Old Bean." The programme describes it as a "furious farce," and as played by Mr. Frank Elliston and Co. it certainly goes the pace. Mr. Elliston himself takes the part of the explorer who brings home the famous rejuvenating beans from Africa, and with Miss Nellie Stevens as the better-half on whom the innocent vegetable is supposed to have the astonishing effect of remanding her, so to speak, from her second childhood to her first, Mr. Richard Oliver as the Captain Stafford who is drawn into the experiment much against his will, Miss Phyllis Elliston as the gallant Captain's sweetheart, and Mr. F. W. Medhurst and the Misses Hurst and Mendes in supplementary rôles, the play was soon drawing hearty laughter from all over the house. There is quite a deal of mirth in the bill. The Two Bobs, as popular as ever, are back with new songs and stories, and, on request, some of their old particulars, such as "Paderewski" and "Philadelphia" to follow. Rich Hayes, dubbed the "lazy clown," is as comical to look at as he is clever with his juggling tricks; and Jock McKay, of course, is always sure of an accompaniment of laughs to last from beginning to end of his turn.

Mr. Bransby Williams' "Uncle John" monologue has a lot of witty and amusing material in it, but he is not content with showing what he can do in the comedy way only—because he knows his audience would not be content either—and turns afterwards in his memories and mimicry sketches to drama, with his clever imitations of Sir George Alexander and Sir Herbert Tree, and to tragedy—this was his finest effort of all—with his impression of Sir Henry Irving as Matthias in the Dream Scene from "The Bells."

At either end of the programme comes a remarkable exhibition of acrobatic skill. The Brothers Huxter do their astonishing leaping and tumbling feats without any apparatus except the massed dozen or so of chairs they use as a sort of obstacle, and the Five Petleys go up aloft on an aerial trapeze for theirs. But it would be hard to say which of these absolutely first-rate combinations is entitled to bear away the palm.

For the Coliseum, the musical items are few. Miss Mary Leighton, the lyric soprano, makes a welcome return and is in beautiful voice. On Monday afternoon she sang Godard's "Angels Guard Thee," the valse from "Tom Jones," and Tosti's "Goodbye." All were much appreciated. And in the intermission a new "comedy overture," one of the young British composers' works chosen under Sir Oswald Stoll's "encouragement scheme," is being played. It is a bright, tuneful work, its themes unmistakably British in feeling and treatment, and it makes stimulating and very pleasant hearing. The composer, Mr. Percy Bowie, a pupil of Mr. Frederick Corder and a medallist of the Royal Academy of Music, conducted in person, and secured a performance that was received with much favour.

THE PALLADIUM.

For the first week in the New Year, Mr. Charles Gulliver is providing patrons of his principal hall with a capital programme. Taking the newcomers first, we have Miss Hetty King in her impersonations of a soldier-boy, a man-about-town, and a jolly Jack Tar on leave. It is difficult to say which of these characterisations is best. They are all brilliant pieces of work infused with her own personality, that always "gets across." A rollicking infectious chorus to her sailor song, "My Dear Old Home, Sweet Home," adds a lot to its attraction. Tom Stuart is giving his clever burlesque impressions of different types of vocalists. One of the features of this artist's turn is his lightning make-up, done on the stage in a few seconds, which so completely alters his appearance. Another newcomer, Sammy Shields, the popular Scottish comedian, has an excellent football song that appealed termendously to the Stamford Bridge enthusiasts.

Yvonne Granville, the chic Parisian soubrette, is a vivacious comedienne, and her turn was greatly enjoyed. Bob Knapp and Chris Cornella, a couple of versatile American comedians, introduce quite a lot of refreshing originality into their turn, which is very popular; whilst Elkins, Fay and Elkins, a trio of vocalists, ragtime artists, and whirlwind jazzers, were accorded a hearty reception on Monday evening.

Miss Marie Lloyd remains in the bill, and on the occasion of our visit the Queen of Comediennes was at her very best. Lorna and Toots Pounds in their inimitable exhibition of mimicry, and George Mozart, in his "types" of everyday life, also remain in the programme, which is completed by Laveen and Cross in their Roman Sports absurdity, and the Eldon Trio.

◆

FINSBURY PARK EMPIRE.

The audiences at Finsbury Park Empire this week are very speedily put on good terms with themselves, for the first turn is "Happy" Tom Parker, who, besides possessing excellent numbers, knows how to step-dance. Quite a big success was scored by M. Lorenzi, a harpist of truly remarkable technique. When he plays popular items M. Lorenzi also sings in a quiet, pleasing voice, and the audience would not let him go until he had supplied an encore.

That talented and artistic couple, Ben Osborne and Nellie Perryer, are responsible for a lot of the amusement of the evening. Their quaint studies of life are embellished with neat little touches of artistry which puts their turn on a very high level. Mr. Osborne is singing a new number, a parody on "That Old-fashioned Mother of Mine," wherein he deplores the neglect of poor paterfamilias at the hands of the song-writers. This clever duo were in great form, and an appearance in front of the "tabs" was inevitable. Miss Esta Stella's bright and exuberant style is well suited to that gladsome ditty, "I Want Loving," and her impersonation of Miss Elsie Janis is a capital piece of characterisation.

Variety was lent to the entertainment by some excellent juggling from that past-master of the art, Mr. Frank Le Dent, whose originality also extends to the setting of his act, and the quaint whimsicality which marks his entrance always causes much laughter. The programme is completed by Mr. Malcolm Scott in his best and driest mood; and that prince of comedians, Mr. Charles Austin, in the very funny sketchlet, "Parker's Appeal."

Old patrons of the Finsbury Park house will be pleased to see that Mr. Edward R. Glanvill has resumed the post of assistant manager after many exciting experiences in France and the East with the 5th Cavalry Division, M.V.S.

◆

CHISWICK EMPIRE.

Knowing exactly the tastes of his clientele, Mr. Persich has a strong and attractive bill for his patrons this week. Always good, Mr. Saker's orchestra leads off with a finely executed selection. Miss Doris Ashton possesses a fine soprano voice, which is heard to perfection in her selections. She was rapturously recalled, and deserved the plaudits showered on a fine performance. "The Golden Banjo Boy," which is De Alma, proves himself a master of his instrument; indeed, what the boy doesn't know about banjos isn't worth knowing. His selections met with a deservedly fine reception. It is whispered even the Shah succumbed to the humours of the Nathano Bros. in the mirth provoking roller skating skit, "Just a Laugh"—it is, in point of fact, more a scream than a ripple. Their success is immediate.

Those two drolls, Jack Hayman and Jimmie Lowe, quite soon extend their geniality over the footlights, and the audience keenly appreciates their clever whimsicalities; their song, "Down on the Farm," and their operatic burlesque is delightful.

Distinctly pleasing is Zetta Mor, who is very successful in her song scena. "A Country Girl" proves a great hit, and is cleverly interpreted. Fun, fast and furious, is found in Ernest Krake's sketch, "The Electric Tram Conductor." As Ginger, the ticket puncher, Krake is very funny, and the audience rocks with merriment. Then there are Kelly and Drake, a quaint comedy duo whose combined efforts produce screams of laughter.

Michael Orme's clever playlet, "Great Aunt Elizabeth," is admirably sustained by Miss Violet Vanbrugh, Mr. Scott Sutherland, Miss Janette Millar and Mr. Eric Ward. Miss Violet Vanbrugh in the dual rôle of the fascinating young widow and in the name part, gives a further example of her art and versatility.

◆

COLLINS'S, ISLINGTON.

There is an excellent and varied programme here this week. After a spirited overture by Mr. A. Fellowes and his capable orchestra, the Carina Trio of ladies gave their clever musical act. Opening with a trio on tubular-bells and piccolo, they followed with violin, piano, cornet, and flute in quick succession. They are adept at each instrument, and also show

(Continued on next page.)

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FRANK—RAY

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"DICK WHITTINGTON."

MATINEES:—
Thursday and Saturday, at 2.30.

MANAGING DIRECTOR MR. CHARLES GULLIVER TO WHOM ALL COMMUNICATIONS SHOULD BE ADDRESSED.

THE LONDON MUSIC HALLS.

(Continued from preceding page.)

their voices to advantage in their wonderful hunting finale. They were heartily applauded. Anna Hasa sang two bright songs vivaciously. "The Prize-winner," a Scottish comedy sketch, was well played by Macdonald Watson and a capable company. Arthur Ferriss gave some clever rustic delineations, which were much appreciated. Will Lacey, besides being America's greatest cycling comedian, is a violinist, and sings Rags whilst dexterously riding on one wheel. He performs many amazing feats, and his act altogether is a very clever and entertaining one. Jen Latona is a great favourite. Her first song, accompanied by the concertina, is rendered with much pathos. She then describes at the piano the troubles of father, and every point gets home, the audience insisting on "Lil Old Home" as an encore. Alpho, as a bushman, presented an original ventriloquial act. The humorous conversational patter was greatly enjoyed, as was also the version of "Eileen Alannah." Dave Lee, with "The Jazz Dance" and "I'm a Husband," was very popular; and the programme was concluded by Emmett Adams' screaming farce, "Misery and Co.," which was recently seen at the Coliseum.

◆

SOUTH LONDON PALACE.

Mr. Tom Shenton and his company hold the boards this week at this popular south side hall, with the revue "Nights of Gladness," aptly described as a musical mix-up, and a big house gave it a warm welcome on Monday evening.

The principal comedian, Uty Rowlands, has a good part, and while he is on the stage keeps his audience thoroughly amused. He is well supported by Mr. Will Shenton, who is a bit of everything, and mighty nimble on his feet, for his buck and wing dance in the second scene quite deserved the loud applause which greeted him. Mr. Tom Shenton as a Dude did well, and his duet with Miss Elsie Bower, "The Joy-ride Skid," was favourably received. He was also concerned with the same lady in a selection of "darky" songs, in which she presided at the piano and he strummed the banjo; their vivacity and general joyousness was greatly appreciated. The prettiest number was that rendered by Miss Doris Fairburn, who sang in delightful style, supported by the full chorus, "My Old Back Garden," a song with an ear-haunting refrain. Deserving of mention, too, is Miss Marie Claire, with her lively ditties "What Else Matters?" and "I Want to Go Home." To prove his versatility, Mr. Tom Shenton gave a thrilling monologue in the final scene, entitled "The Shooting of Dan McGrue," a story of a bad man in the Wild West. His elocution was perfect, and he held the audience spell-bound. The revue concludes with a Scotch song, in which the whole company is dressed in the various tartans of Auld Reekie.

"Nights of Gladness" is well mounted and well dressed, and with its capable principals and Sixteen Glad Girls as an efficient chorus, should go far.

◆

HAMMERSMITH PALACE.

The strong programme here attracted a large audience on Monday. The Ketos give a very funny knockabout speciality act. Austin Rudd, the popular comedian, scored with "Waiting" and "The Body is Upstairs." The Lyrical Players gave a refined musical turn, which included harp and violin solos, the vocalists having good voices. Lloyd and Montrose have some capital Army jokes, and are excellent singers, their rendering of "The Bonny Banks of Loch Lomond" being greatly enjoyed. Fred Barnes is always a favourite, and on Monday the audience were loth to let him go. Starting with "Just Like the Ivy Clings, the Girl Will Cling to You," he followed with "Mammy of Mine" and an Italian song at the pianoforte, and as a final encore sang "Give Me the Moonlight." Anna Brady and Laurie Dunn gave a burlesque turn, with some up-to-date jazz dancing. Hilda Glyder did well with "You'd Be Surprised!" followed by "What Do You Mean By Loving Someone Else?" "I Want To Be Good," and "Oh, Johnny!"

Jack and Evelyn, bubbling over with fun, were in fine form, and their always welcome and amusing act came in for the heartiest of receptions. Willie Rouse at the piano, and the Red, White and Blue Troupe of Trick Cyclists, a trio of clever young ladies, completed the really excellent entertainment.

◆

BRIXTON EMPRESS.

At the Brixton Empress this week Barney Lando and Co. are giving a sketch entitled "The Dealer," which proves quite diverting, providing, as it does, Mr. Lando with an excellent opportunity for displaying Jewish humour. The plot is a slight one. Israel Goldman refuses to allow Jakey Lucovitch to marry his daughter unless he can earn £1,000 within a week. This task he accomplishes at the expense of his future father-inlaw, and all ends happily. Mr. Lando is ably assisted by Miss Maisie Ancrum and Mr. Paul Daly.

A very excellent turn is that provided by Les Grandes Stellas. These three clever ladies, assisted by a pretty scene and clever lighting effects, supply a bright and artistic little act. Miss May Stella plays the flute and piccolo with great skill, while her sister, Ethel, shows herself a master o fthe piano and the saxophone. The third sister, Olive, is the possessor of a very high soprano voice, and sings "The Roses Love the Sunshine" charmingly. Mr. Hinsle, a comedy illusionist, performs some wonderful tricks, and produces rabbits and pigeons, &c., also his assistant, a charming young lady in sailor's costume, from the most unlikely and impossible places. Among other items may be mentioned Messrs. Fred Keeton and George French, both of whom have some excellent songs. The show concludes with an acrobatic entertainment by the Sisters Vincent, three little French girls with the most astounding muscular development, who perform some amazing feats of strength.

◆

LONDON MUSIC HALL.

This is a capital programme here this week. Miss Edna Veno sings "A Good Man is Hard to Find," "Wearing a Smile," and "I Made You Cry" in sweet voice. T. C. Eric, M.C., is a ventriloquist with an excellent technique and a fine flow of repartee between himself and figure. The Daring Dunnes open with a graceful acrobatic toe-dance and then justify their title by a series of wonderful equilibristic feats on a pedestal. The marvellous nature of their act was fully appreciated. The next turn, not named on the programme, was applauded for singing "I'm Sorry I Made You Cry," with the chorus thrown on the screen.

The Phil Ascot Four, great favourites here, gave various items in their dancing repertoire. They are experts in their work, and their act is beautifully dressed, and their acrobatic and pony-trot finale brought down the house. Huley and Bent did well in a comedy patter act.

Billy Wells and the Eclair Twins, from the Ambassadors Theatre, presented a smart musical and speciality dancing act. Jubb and Jerome, the baton girls, work hard in a new jazz number and clever baton-swinging. The Five Wartons conclude with an agile jumping and acrobatic act.

Mr. Will Dalton informs us that "Heads or Tails" has no vacancies till April, 1921. This seems a record, as revues go, for a provincial touring company. Mr. Dalton has, however, succeeded very noticeably in this part of the variety business.

Terry's Juveniles

Re-booked THIRD SYNDICATE TOUR.

NOW PLAYING PRINCIPAL CHILDREN'S PARTS IN

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The ERA said last week I am "A comedian to be reckoned with." Not a Flash in the Pan. Three years' solid success with this firm. Would any Kind Agent like to adopt me from July onwards?

This week: ROYALTY, CHESTER. 12 and 19: GRAND THEATRE, SWANSEA.

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GLAD

AGAIN.

LONG CABLE RECEIVED. ECCENTRIC CLUB, S.W.

MISS DORIS ASHTON

THE NEW SOPRANO.

EMPIRE, CHISWICK.

Photo by HANA.)

Who said—

LEN TEEL

was the best dancer in London.

Somebody has said so. All records broken as "Twankey" the Elephant and Castle Theatre.

THE ④ MOTIFS.

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" VAL WATSON, Violinist
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Second Season with FRED. WARDEN, Esq.

The MONGADOR !!!

The only vacant dates in 1920.

Jan. 26 and Feb. 2 between Aberdeen and Portsmouth

Last Week, EMPIRE, EDINBURGH. Last turn as usual.
This Week, EMPIRE, CARDIFF. May be Kif-Kif bono.

The Evening Dispatch,
Tuesday, Dec. 30, 1919.

Comedy juggling is not by any means a novelty on the variety stage, but there is a freshness and touch of originality in the performance of the Mongadors which makes it more than casually interesting, and the accompanying comedy is as amusing as the juggling is clever.

The Edinburgh Evening News,
Tuesday, Dec. 30, 1919.

The Mongadors, a troupe of French jugglers, were exceedingly smart, presenting as they did an entertainment out of the usual run of this type.

For booking wire or write to the office address:

P. Mongador 132, Kennington Park Road, London, S.E. 11.

Messrs. Chantrey, Chantrey & Co., of 61/2, Lincoln's Inn Fields, W.C.2., have united their practice with that of Messrs. Howard, Button, Hamp & Co., of 49, Queen Victoria-street, E.C.4., and will as from Jan. 1, 1920, continue as Messrs. Chantrey, Button & Co., at 61/2, Lincoln's Inn Fields, W.C.2., and at 2, Rue des Petits Peres, Paris.

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These calls are communicated by the management for the convenience of Artistes without prejudice.

No Deputies will be accepted at Rehearsals. Any Artistes absenting themselves will be liable to have their contracts cancelled.

CALLS FOR MONDAY, JANUARY 12, 1920.

THE LONDON HIPPODROME.
Rehearsal at 11 a.m. for:—
"Joy-Bells."

EMPIRE, FINSBURY PARK.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Harry Day presents "Stunts."

EMPIRE, NEW CROSS.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Albert de Courville's "Joy-Bells."

EMPIRE, STRATFORD.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Two Rascals, Esta Stella, Vernon Watson, Sam Barton, Maher and Langford, Wyn and Ivy, Herbert Cave, Meteor Trio.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE, STOKE NEWINGTON.

EMPIRE, CARDIFF.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
G. H. Elliott, John, Harry and Burton Lester, Gaston, Pasquali Bros., Tom E. Hughes, Rosie Lloyd, The McNaughtons, Emilie Hayes.

EMPIRE, SWANSEA.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Albert de Courville's "Box o' Tricks."

EMPIRE, NEWPORT.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Fred Karno presents "Money to Burn," Nancy Davies, Harry Moore, The Adlers' Bromley Carter.

OLYMPIA, CARDIFF.
Rehearsal at 11 a.m. for
Artists as booked.
Will Artists kindly note that the Cardiff Olympia bars the Cardiff Hippodrome, and that no Variety Agent has the Sole Bookings of the former Theatre?

EMPIRE, NOTTINGHAM.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Harry Day presents "Funbeams."

EMPIRE, GLASGOW.
Rehearsal at 11 a.m. for:—
Kuming and Windsor, Fred Duprez, Vasco, Donald and Carson, Madam Dalmere's Table Circus, Bros. De Wynne, Burr and Hope.

COLISEUM, GLASGOW.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Moss Empires, Ltd., present "Jack and Jill," Pantomime.

EMPIRE PALACE, BIRMINGHAM.
Rehearsal at 12.30 p.m. for:—
King and Benson, Daly and Healy, Beaumont Collins and Company, Geo. Bowden, Bert Terrell, Les Bastiens, David Poole.
(Matinee Monday, at 2.30.)

GRAND, BIRMINGHAM.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Kirkby and Hudson, Wilson Hallett, Olga Morselli, Omega Trio, Melody Makers, The Flemings, Manuel Vega.

NEW PALACE, SUMMERHILL, BIRMINGHAM.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—
Coquelli, Butler and Barnes, Jimmy Verner.

EMPIRE PALACE, LIVERPOOL.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Albert de Courville's "Same to You."

OLYMPIA, LIVERPOOL.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
The Wylie-Tate Pantomime "Jack and the Beanstalk."

EMPIRE PALACE, LEEDS.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
G. T. Pattman, Geo. Bolton, The Clovelly Girls, Betty Washington, The Four Mackwells, Hayman and Franklin.

PALACE THEATRE, HULL.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for.—
Albert de Courville's "Tip Top."

EMPIRE PALACE, SHEFFIELD.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Albert de Courville's "Keep 'Em Alive."

ALHAMBRA, BRADFORD.
Rehearsal at 12.15 p.m. for:—
Houdini, Decima and Eddie McLean, Grundy and Young, Violet King, Adam Tomlinson, Oswald Bemand.

EMPIRE, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
John Tiller presents "The Babes in the Wood."

EMPIRE THEATRE, EDINBURGH.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Florrie Forde's Pantomime, "Red Riding Hood."

EMPIRE CINEMA, NEWCASTLE.
Picture entertainments.

KING'S THEATRE, SOUTHSEA.
Rehearsal at 1.30 p.m. for:—
Andre Charlot's "Buzz-Buzz."

EMPIRE, SUNDERLAND.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
"The Whirl of To-day."
Artists are requested to bring Band Parts for full Orchestra, including Horns and Bassoon.
(Managing Director, Richard Thornton.)

EMPIRE PALACE, S. SHIELDS.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
The Great Carmo, The Copelands, The Real McKays, Sanford and Lyons, Proveanie Troupe.
(Note.—South Shields bars Tynemouth.)
(Managing Director, Richard Thornton.)

EMPIRE, WEST HARTLEPOOL.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—
Gertie Gitana, Renee and Godfrey, May Henderson, Barton and Ashley, George Young, The D Voraks, Cruikshank
(Managing Director, Richard Thornton.)

EMPIRE, GATESHEAD.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—
"Making Movies," George D'Albert, Haley's Juveniles, Melford and Dodd, Gordon and Rica.
(Managing Director, Richard Thornton.)

GRAND THEATRE, NOTTINGHAM.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Company as booked.

PALACE THEATRE, SALFORD.
(Late Regent Theatre.)
William de Lacey presents "Humpty-Dumpty."

Artistes' Business must be absolutely free from vulgarity.

Special provision has been made at each Theatre for the exhibition of loose Photographs. Artistes are invited to supply these to the Manager on reaching the Theatre, and they will be returned in good condition at the end of the week.

Scenery and Properties must be fireproofed to approval of Local Authorities.

Applications for Engagements by Artistes or their Agents must be addressed to Head Office. State salaries required for (a) West End, (b) Suburban, (c) Large, and (d) Small Provincial Halls. A list of existing engagements must be enclosed. Artistes are requested to accredit only one Agent at the same time and to notify the Company immediately of any change of Agents.

Silence a polite negative.

Artistes desirous of submitting their Acts at private auditions should communicate with Head Office.

Matinées are held every Wednesday at the **Empire Theatre, South Shields,** at which new acts may be presented. Applications should be made to the Manager at the Theatre.

NOTE.—These Matinées are discontinued until further notice.

Engagements of Artistes are subject to cancellation if the following requirements are not observed:—

(1) Matter for bills and programmes, blocks, specimens of pictorials (if any) and a list of engagements with (a) in the case of singers, copies of the songs and patter, (b) in the case of sketch proprietors copies of the scripts as licensed and copies of the Lord Chamberlain's Licence, must be sent to Head Office three weeks at least before opening.

(2) Artistes must attend rehearsals, no deputies being accepted.

(3) **Press Matter and Photos.** Star Artistes, Feature, and Speciality Acts are requested to furnish the Press Publicity Department (Representative, Mr. Alfred Davies) with any interesting matter pertaining to their turn, with latest photos (non-copyright), for newspaper reproduction, three weeks before opening.

Important Notice to Artistes and Agents. When an Artiste or Act having previously played on the Moss' Empire Tour, is re-engaged for further dates, the contracts will be sent to the Agent who negotiated the last engagement, unless notice has been received from the Artiste that this is not desired.

Contracts and Orders. No contracts or orders for services or goods will be recognised unless upon an Official Form issued from Head Office and signed by the **Managing Director** or **Business Manager,** and the Company concerned may refuse payment for all services rendered or goods supplied except in accordance with this notice.

Invoices must be sent to the Theatre or Department to which goods are supplied, but monthly statements must be sent to Head Office.

The Company on whose behalf Contracts or Orders are signed is solely responsible for payment.

The Company will not hold itself responsible for loss or damage to Manuscripts, Songs, etc., submitted or sent to it for any purpose.

Mr. R. H. GILLESPIE, *Managing Director.*
Mr. A. P. DE COURVILLE, *Assistant to Managing Director and Booking Manager for the London Hippodrome.*
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With few exceptions. Direct mostly.
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Still Starring. Still a Huge Favourite.
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Tina, Inga, Lilla and Sylva, World's Greatest English Concertina Quartette. P.A., 4, Speenham-rd., Stockwell, London.

HOLMAN SISTERS, Dainty Second Boy and Girl with Mr. Harry McKelvie's "Dick Whittington." This Hippo., Keighley. Next, Hippo., Norwich.

MISS PATTI LOFTUS.
Jan. 5, Worthing.
Jan. 12 Maidstone.

NEXT WEEK'S CALLS.

MONDAY, JANUARY 12, 1920.

The Editor relies upon the good faith of managers and others, and cannot accept responsibility with regard to any inaccuracies or changes which may be made in the calls.

BILL MATTER FOR FEBRUARY 2 NOW DUE.

BARNEY ARMSTRONG CIRCUIT.

BELFAST.—Pantomime, "Aladdin."

DUBLIN.—Pantomime, "Cinderella."

HARRY BAWN CIRCUIT.

EDMONTON EMPIRE (rehearsal, 4).—Arthur Watson's pantomime, "Red Riding Hood."

EDMONTON HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 5).—"Jack and the Beanstalk."

MILE END EMPIRE (rehearsal, 1).—Monty Fields, Maddock, and company as booked.

BOSTOCK TOUR.

BLANTYRE PICTURE HOUSE (rehearsal, 5.30).—Wells and Warlock.

HAMILTON HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 1).—Harry McKelvie's pantomime, "Dick Whittington."

IPSWICH HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 2).—Freshwater and Harcourt's "Devilled Chicken," Joseph Cheetham, The Brandons, Winter and Bunny, Elsie Gregory, Chas. F. Hill, Caron Troupe

IPSWICH LYCEUM THEATRE.—"Red Riding Hood" pantomime.

NORWICH HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 2).—Harry McKelvie's pantomime, "Dick Whittington."

NORWICH THEATRE ROYAL.—"The Chinese Puzzle."

PAISLEY RINK PALACE (rehearsal, 6).—Fred Alska and Co., Hilliard, Jock Printie.

PAISLEY THEATRE. (rehearsal, 12).—Scottish Revues Syndicate present "Bobo."

KENNEDY CIRCUIT.

BIRMINGHAM GAIETY. — Zellini, Denise and Jan, Hattie Hartley, Rich Taylor, Paul Freeman, and company as booked, Bioscope.

RAYMOND Monarch of Mystery.

WEST BROMWICH EMPIRE.—George Anthony's pantomime, "Dick Whittington and His Cat."

WEST BROMWICH OLYMPIA.—Mr. and Mrs. R. A. Maddox's pantomime. "Jack and Jill."

WEST BROMWICH THEATRE ROYAL.—E. C. Howitt's company, "The Custody of the Child."

LONDON SYNDICATE HALLS.

BRIXTON EMPRESS (rehearsal, 12).—Harry Burns presents "Nights of Gladness."

CHELSEA (rehearsal, 12).—Harry Burns presents "The Honeymoon Express." West End Productions, Ltd., present "Bluebell in Fairyland," matinées only, at 2.

EAST HAM (rehearsal, 12).—Harry Burns presents pantomime "Dick Whittington."

EUSTON (rehearsal, 12).—Mrs. Bert Gilbert presents "Music at Home," Sybil Arundale, Makido Family, Dolly Elsworthy, Dene Dunlop, Alpho, Van Bern, Hart and O'Brian, Hindle and Gertie Rees, Fred Keeton, Bioscope.

LONDON PAVILION (rehearsal, 11.30).—C. B. Cochran's production, "Afgar."

METROPOLITAN (rehearsal, 12.15).—Dick Ray presents "Sunshine," Hamamura Family, Winston Players, W. H. Brand, Frank Keith, Mlle. Doria's Dogs, Vera Caine, Bioscope.

OXFORD (rehearsal, 12).—C. B. Cochran's production, "Maggie."

SOUTH LONDON (rehearsal, 12).—George French, Four Elmores, Dario and Partner, Les Grandes, Stellos, Two Junes, Jack Warman, Selwyn, Auber, Two Boyds, Bioscope.

TOTTENHAM (rehearsal, 12).—Burlesque Productions present pantomime, "Mother Goose."

WALTHAMSTOW (rehearsal, 1).—Harry Burns presents pantomime "Robinson Crusoe."

WATFORD (rehearsal, 1).—W. E. Holloway and E. A. Pickering present "Our Mr. Hepplewhite."

LONDON THEATRES OF VARIETIES.

CAMBERWELL PALACE (rehearsal, 4).—Jack and Evelyn, T. E. Dunville, Joseph Hart and Co., Thornley Dodge, Harry Herbert, Damsel, Laveen and Cross, Breconia Singer.

CLAPHAM GRAND (rehearsal, 4).—Joe Collins presents "Sinbad the Sailor."

COLLINS'S MUSIC HALL (rehearsal, 4).—Harry Tate, Larry Lewis, Fulgora, Geo. Gilbey, Borneo Gardner, Isa Wise, Four Powers, The Enzers, Joe and Willy.

RAYMOND Supremest of Sorcerers.

CROYDON EMPIRE (rehearsal, 4).—McDonald, Watson and Co., Jack Lane, Lucille Benstead, The Gresham Singers, Celeste, Clark's Cyclists, Phil Bransby, Gilday and Fox.

HAMMERSMITH PALACE (rehearsal, 4).—Harry Tate and Co., Sammy Shields, Leslie Elliott, Gus Harris, Jack Birchley, Thompson and Walker, Will Van Allen, The Westbrooks, The Videos, Vivian Peake Sextette.

HOLBORN EMPIRE (rehearsal, 11).—Geo. Carney, May Moore, Duprez, Tucker, Quaint Q's, Valazzi, The Madcaps, The Ketos, Wu Chaio Troupe, Louis D'Arnay.

ILFORD HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 4).—Ernie Lotinga and Co., Ernie Mayne, Gardini, Arthur Ferris, Elsie Robey, Witt and Butt, Tambo and Tambo, Woolmer Young, Three Jees.

ISLINGTON EMPIRE (rehearsal, 4).—Chas. Austin and Co., Brady and Dunn, Effie Mann, Harry Ford, Broughton and Creedon, Syd Moorhouse, Bert Elliott, The Manchus, Mullaney Brothers.

KILBURN EMPIRE (rehearsal, 4).—Joe Collins presents "Dick Whittington."

LEWISHAM HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 4).—Sydney Bransgrove presents "Goody Two Shoes."

PALLADIUM.—Geo Mozart, Marie Lloyd, Yvonne Granville, Hetty King, Yamayama Troupe, Elkins, Fay and Elkins, Hanlon Charles Troupe, Manneret, Percy Honri, Lorna and Toots Pounds.

POPLAR HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 4.)—Ernie Lotinga and Co., Ernie Mayne, Geo. Gilbey, Carino Trio, Marie Denziloe, Harry Shirley and Co., Anna Hana, Costa and George, Oriental Trio.

PUTNEY HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 4).—Sam Mayo, Tom Clare, Edie Veno, Ray Wallace, Carr Lynn, Red, White and Blue Troupe, Will Collinson and Co., Lawrence Wright Co.

SHOREDITCH OLYMPIA (rehearsal, 4).—Joe Collins presents "Babes in the Wood."

WILLESDEN HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 4).—Lake's company "One Good Turn," O'Gorman Brothers, Fred Barnes, Jean Schwiller, Austin Rudd, Bert Williams, Campbell and Scott, Halma.

RAYMOND is in Town.

WOOLWICH HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 4).—Lew Lake presents "A Mother Should Tell."

MACNAGHTEN TOUR.

BLACKBURN.—"Sinbad the Sailor."

BRADFORD.—Miss Madge Fenton presents "My American Girl."

BURNLEY.—"Cinderella."

CARLISLE.—Golda Quartette, Dalkeith, Harry Hemsley, Artemas, Frank Dickenson, Stanley Deane.

HALIFAX.—Ernest Hastings, Clifford and Grey, Bond Rowell, Takio, Mark Stuart, Lewis Gunner, Sylvester and company.

HUDDERSFIELD.—Julot and Piero, The Kobes, The Uniques, Arthur Astill, Harry Buss and company, Baxter and St. Welma, Charlton.

LEICESTER.—Mirtz and Whittle's revue, "Joy Days."

SOUTHAMPTON.—The Lyrical Players, 4 Storks, The Westwoods, The Anserouls, Jock McKay, Ian Macarthy, Fred Brezin.

WARRINGTON.—Austin Sisters, Hector and Lolletta, 4 Colonial Girls, J. H. Scotland, Morritt, Les Latour, James Bendon.

Rehearsal at all Halls at 12.

MOSS' EMPIRES, LTD.

BIRMINGHAM EMPIRE (rehearsal, 12.30).—King and Benson, Daly and Healy, Beaumont Collins and Co., Geo. Bowden, Bert Terrell, Les Bastiens, David Poole.

BIRMINGHAM GRAND (rehearsal, 1).—Kirkby and Hudson, Wilson Hallett, Olga Morselli, Omega Trio, Melody Makers, The Flemings, Manuel Vega.

BIRMINGHAM SUMMERHILL PALACE (rehearsal, 12).—Coquelli, Butler and Barnes, Jimmy Verner.

BRADFORD ALHAMBRA (rehearsal, 12.15).—Houdini, Decima and Eddie McLean, Grundy and Young, Violet King, Adam Tomlinson, Oswald Bemand.

CARDIFF EMPIRE (rehearsal, 1).—G. H. Elliott, John, Harry and Burton Lester, Gaston, Pasquali Bros., Tom E. Hughes, Rosie Lloyd, The McNaughtons, Emilie Hayes.

CARDIFF OLYMPIA (rehearsal, 11).—Artists as booked. "Will artists kindly note that the Cardiff Olympia bars the Cardiff Hippodrome, and that no variety agent has the sole bookings of the former theatre."

RAYMOND Merriest of Magicians.

EDINBURGH EMPIRE (rehearsal, 1).—Florrie Forde's pantomime, "Red Riding Hood."

FINSBURY PARK EMPIRE (rehearsal, 1).—Harry Day presents "Stunts."

GATESHEAD EMPIRE (rehearsal, 12).—"Making Movies," George D'Albert, Haley's Juveniles, Melford and Dodd, Gordon and Rice.

GLASGOW COLISEUM (rehearsal, 1).—Moss' Empires, Ltd., present "Jack and Jill" pantomime.

GLASGOW EMPIRE (rehearsal, 11).—Kuming and Windsor, Fred Duprez, Vasco, Donald and Carson, Mme. Dalmere's Table Circus, Bros. De Wynne, Burr and Hope.

GRAND THEATRE NOTTINGHAM.—Company as booked.

HULL PALACE (rehearsal, 1).—Albert de Courville's "Tip-Top."

LEEDS EMPIRE (rehearsal, 1).—G. T. Pattman, Geo. Bolton, The Clovelly Girls, Betty Washington, The Four Mackwells, Hayman and Franklin.

LIVERPOOL EMPIRE (rehearsal, 1).—Albert de Courville's "Same to You."

LIVERPOOL OLYMPIA (rehearsal, 1).—The Wylie-Tate pantomime, "Jack and the Beanstalk."

LONDON HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 11).—"Joy-Bells."

NEWCASTLE EMPIRE (rehearsal, 1).—John Tiller presents "The Babes in the Wood."

NEW CROSS EMPIRE (rehearsal, 1).—Albert de Courville's "Joy-Bells."

NEWPORT EMPIRE (rehearsal, 1).—Fred Karno presents "Money to Burn," Nancy Davies, Harry Moore, The Adlers, Bromley Carter.

NOTTINGHAM EMPIRE (rehearsal, 1).—Harry Day presents "Funbeams."

SALFORD PALACE THEATRE. — William de Lacey presents "Humpty Dumpty."

SHEFFIELD EMPIRE (rehearsal, 1).—Albert de Courville's "Keep 'Em Alive."

RAYMOND Master Magician.

SOUTHSEA KING'S THEATRE (rehearsal, 1.30).—Andre Charlot's "Buzz-Buzz."

SOUTH SHIELDS EMPIRE (rehearsal, 1).—The Great Carmo, The Copelands, The Real McKays, Sanford and Lyons, Proveanie Troupe. (Note.—South Shields bars Tynemouth.)

STRATFORD EMPIRE (rehearsal, 1).—Two Rascals, Esta Stella, Vernon Watson, Sam Barton, Maher and Langford, Wyn and Ivy, Herbert Cave, Meteor Trio.

SUNDERLAND EMPIRE (rehearsal, 1).—"The Whirl of To-day." (Artists are requested to bring band parts for full orchestra, including horns and bassoon.)

SWANSEA EMPIRE (rehearsal, 1).—Albert de Courville's "Box o' Tricks."

WEST HARTLEPOOL EMPIRE (rehearsal, 12).—Gertie Gitana, Reace and Godfrey, May Henderson, Barton and Ashley, George Young, The D'Voraks, Cruikshanks.

STOLL TOUR.

ARDWICK GREEN EMPIRE (rehearsal, 12.30).—Charles Stevens, Pierce and Roslyn, Mazuz and Mazette, Mayne and Sheridan, Lake and Barrasford, Bioscope.

BRISTOL HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 12.30).—Ethel Toms, Hayman and Lowe, Hanlon Bros., Sandy Powell, Bioscope.

CHATHAM EMPIRE THEATRE (rehearsal, 2.30).—Selbini Duo, Duncan and Godfrey, Bioscope, and company as booked.

CHISWICK EMPIRE (rehearsal, 12).—Matthew Newton, Clarke and Ritchie, Bergonzi and Frances, Eileen and Marjorie, Estelle Rose, Hanbury and Schofield, Three Van Dammes, Bioscope.

HACKNEY EMPIRE (rehearsal, 12).—The Stellios, Rich Hayes, Frank Whitman, Osborne and Perryer, M'Lita Dolores, Armstrong and Howarth, Woodward and Page, Bioscope.

LEICESTER PALACE (rehearsal, 12).—"Sons of the Sea."

LONDON ALHAMBRA.—Daily at 2.30 and 7.30, "The Keeper of the Door" and "A Tale of Two Cities."

LONDON COLISEUM (rehearsal, 10).—Miss Phyllis Neilson-Terry, Yorke and Leonard in "In Hosiery," Loie Fuller's School of Dancing, Linga Singh, Violet Essex, Nathano Bros., The Jovers, Paul Gordon, E. J. Moore, Bioscope.

MANCHESTER HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 10).—Brown and Potter, George Calver, Fred Milner, Alexander Prince, Bioscope.

SHEPHERD'S BUSH EMPIRE (rehearsal, 12).—"On the Wing."

STOLL PICTURE THEATRE (London Opera House).—Pictures and varieties.

WOOD GREEN EMPIRE (rehearsal, 12).—Knut Brook, Will Gardner, Zetta Mor, Leslie Strange, Holden and Graham, Ernest Krake and Co., Bioscope.

VARIETY THEATRES CONTROLLING CO., LTD.

BOSCOMBE HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 1.30).—De Biere, Billy Bennett, Alf Thomas, Gilbert and French, Connie Browning.

BRIGHTON HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 12).—Fred Karno's "Hustle," Fred Russell, Horace Ainsley, Herbert La Martine, Daisy James.

GLASGOW ALHAMBRA.—Fifth week Wylie-Tate pantomime, "Cinderella."

LEEDS HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 12).—Hedges Brothers and Jacobsen, Bert Gilbert and Co., Knapp and Cornalla, George Horton, Foster Kershaw, Nora Moore, Wyotti, Langley Brothers.

RAYMOND King Laugh Maker.

LIVERPOOL HIPPODROME. — Last week of Robert Courtneidge's "Too Many Girls"

MANCHESTER PALACE.—Fourth week Wylie-Tate pantomime, "Aladdin."

MARGATE HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 2.30).—Joe Peterman's "Demobilised."

NEWCASTLE HIPPODROME.—Fourth week Wylie-Tate pantomime, "Cinderella."

PARIS ALHAMBRA (period commencing Jan. 16).—Len Carrodus, Yamamoto and Koyoshi, Elise Craven and company, Yetta and Hansel, Nelson and Nelson, Huxter Brothers, Harry and Ida Laval, Belle Davis and Pics., De Villiers' wireless airship, Stowe Brothers, De Busse.

PORTSMOUTH HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 1).—Ethel Levey, Arturo Bernardi, Darcy Woollven Trio, Graham and Cullen, The Flying Reos, The Buchanans.

PRESTON EMPIRE (rehearsal, 11).—Geo. Sax, "Red Riding Hood."

SHEFFIELD HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 12).—Harry Burns' "The Forty Thieves."

SOUTHAMPTON HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 1.30).—Lew Lake's "The Far East."

SOUTHEND HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 1.30).—Bransby Williams, Laura Guerite, Nelson Jackson, The Rubani Trio, Harry Marlow, James Edison, Mason and Bart.

WOLVERHAMPTON EMPIRE (rehearsal, 1).—"Oh, I!" (revue).

LEON VINT CIRCUIT.

BARRY DOCK PALACE.—Eddy Reed, Two Lillies.

LLANELLY PALACE.—"Ruined Lives" Co.

NEATH PALACE. — Madge Velma, Lorene and Kidd.

ALBANY WARD CIRCUIT.

(Rehearsals at each place at 1 o'clock, except Weymouth, at 12.)

BARNSTAPLE THEATRE ROYAL.—Carlton Fredericks and Co., "Mother Goose," Jan. 15, 16, and 17.

CHEPSTOW PALACE.—Oswald Cray's Co., "The Unmarried Mother," Jan. 12, 13, and 14.

JERSEY OPERA HOUSE.—Arthur Rigby's Co., "Little Red Riding Hood."

SALISBURY NEW THEATRE.—Mr. Raynor's Repertoire Co.

SALISBURY PALACE.—Billie Val and Partner, The Doves, Vesta Fay, De Dion Bros.

TREHARRIS PALACE.—Oswald Cray's Co., "The Unmarried Mother," Jan. 15, 16, and 17.

WEYMOUTH BELLE VUE CINEMA.—Pictures.

WEYMOUTH JUBILEE HALL.—Daunton Shaw Troupe, The McLloyds, Kate and Linori, W. G. Watts, Three Candy Girls.

YEOVIL PALACE.—The Huntings, Loie Conn.

MISCELLANEOUS.

ALDERSHOT HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 1).—Fred Karno's company, "Moonstruck," Yank and Jean, Wager.

ALDERSHOT ALFRED BERT'S MILITARY HALLS (rehearsals, 2.30). — The Bros. Lonsdale, The Harringtons, Tay and Kay, Royce and Franks, Denton and Delph, Pullan and Wood, Hyam Long, Weaver, Madge Robert, Victor Leon, Hal P. Dixon, Rosie Everette, Gladys Raines, The Snow Queen, Dolly Vernon, Freda Lee, Charles Kently, Maurice Leybourne.

ASTON HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 12).—Hickey's Circus, Femina Quartette, Priddoe, Ridiculous Recco, Dolly Varden, Zona and Milroy, Sam Hilton.

AYR PAVILION (rehearsal, 1).—Leo Leon's "Aladdin" pantomime.

BATH PALACE THEATRE. — "All Clear" revue.

BOW PALACE.—Wagner and Skardon present "Disgraced."

CHELTENHAM COLISEUM. — Royal Bartle Quartette, San Balaris and Dalva, Vera Rooney, Fanjacks, Billy Rogers, Trevor and Ware, Two Tomboys.

COVENTRY HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 1).—Elliott Savonas, Niblo and Doris, Three Walkers, Mark Coney, Harry Shiels and Co., Daimler and Eadie, Mareski.

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DUNDEE KING'S THEATRE.—The Ten Loonies, Henry Bekker, Bale Family, Joyce and Shields, Lola De Liane, Les Marbas, The Little Fields.

FOLKESTONE PLAYHOUSE (rehearsal, 12).—G. W. Foster, Walter Bellonini.

GLASGOW PAVILION (rehearsal, 11).—Mr. George Dance presents "Kitty Grey."

GOOLE COLISEUM (rehearsal, 1).—Jack Sterzelly and Dog, "Lucky"; The Artois, Bonnie Bray, Bridson, Tom Williams, Glad and I, Frank Sylvo.

GUILDFORD ROYAL (rehearsal, 2).—George Dance presents "Arlette."

KINGSTON EMPIRE (rehearsal, 12.30).—Jack Cromo's pantomime, "Jack and Jill."

LONDON CANNING TOWN IMPERIAL THEATRE (rehearsal, 11.30).—Fred Karno and Co. presents "Three Bites"; others as booked.

LONDON CANTERBURY.—The Times Trio, "The Silent Mystery," Wills and Jerome, "Elmo the Mighty," and Lilly Desmond and "He." Will artists please note that no variety agent has the sole bookings for this hall?

LONDON GRANVILLE (rehearsal, 12).—"Sherlock Holmes."

NORTHAMPTON NEW THEATRE (rehearsal ,12).—Johnson Clark, Three Joy Belles, Harvey Brinton, Gwen Thomas, George Prince, John Storey, Bobbie Thornton, Christopher Columbus.

PENGE EMPIRE (rehearsal, 12).—Bernard Elliott and Co. in "Profit—and the Loss."

PONTYPRIDD TOWN HALL.—Haydn Wood and Dorothy Court, Stan Kavanagh and Co., The Girtons, Arthur Woodville, Alf Sims, Delson Trio, Stuart and Spencer.

READING PALACE THEATRE. — Six Brothers Luck present "What Next," Pathé Gazette.

RICHMOND HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 12).—"As You Were."

SHOREDITCH EMPIRE.—Peter Bernard, Radford and Russell, Adkin and company, Napoli, Shirley Whyte, &c.

STIRLING ALHAMBRA (rehearsal, 1).—The Four Shades, The Four Maxwells, Elsie Normans, Dave Godfrey, The Great Como, Hayes and Finch, Frederica's Comedy Terriers.

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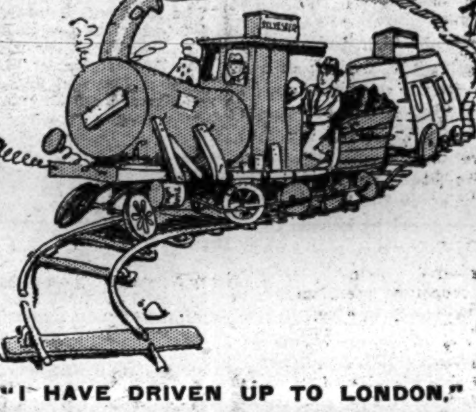

"I HAVE DRIVEN UP TO LONDON."
Busy shopping this week, and the wife is glad the Sales are on. She wants a fur coat and I want some bootlaces.
Keep your eye on Emerson & Gilbert when they come to town—they're fine.
Hello, Gene! You're doing fine with the face cream, etc. When do you take over the Crystal Palace?

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BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, DEATHS

IN MEMORIAM.

EMNEY (Fred).—In loving memory of my darling husband, who fell asleep Jan. 7, 1917. Dearest and kindest of hearts. God rest your sweet soul.—Your wife, BLANCHE EMNEY.

EMNEY (Fred).—In loving memory of our darling Dad. Always in the thoughts and hearts of his children.—Fred., Doris, Coo, Joan and Den. In God's own keeping we leave you, dear.

FRED.—In ever loving memory of dear Fred, who left us Jan. 7, 1917. Sadly missed by his loving sister-in-law, Bess. God bless his dear soul.

FRED.—In fond memory of dear Fred, who died Jan. 7, 1917. To memory ever dear.—Cousin Annie.

THE LATE A. J. MILLS.

So many friends have expressed disappointment at not being notified in time to send wreaths to the funeral of the late popular lyricist, that it has been suggested they should have the opportunity of showing their respect and esteem for the deceased by subscribing towards a suitable memorial stone. The date of the ceremony will be duly announced. The following subscriptions have been received:

	£	s.	d.
The Star Music Publishing Co., Ltd.	5	5	0
Herman Darewski Music Publishing Co.	5	0	0
Henderson and Spalding	5	0	0
Lawrence Wright	3	3	0
Worton David	3	3	0
Daisy Dormer	2	2	0
Louis Sterling	2	2	0
Phil Parsons	2	0	0
R. P. Weston	1	1	0
F. J. Duck	1	1	0
W. Manson	1	1	0
J. P. Harrington	0	10	6
J. Neat	0	10	6
G. A. Stevens	0	10	6
F. Murray	0	10	6
C. Whittle	0	10	6
H. E. Pether	0	10	0
Anonymous	0	6	0
F. J. Barron	0	5	0
Total	34	11	6

Further subscriptions will be acknowledged in "The Era."

MISS BRINCKMAN'S RECITAL AT "BRINSWORTH."

Miss Helen Brinckman kindly went down to the Benevolent Institution on Saturday, December 20, and gave a recitation of Dickens' famous "Christmas Carol," which the old folk greatly appreciated. Her rendering of the "greatest Christmas sermon ever given" was magnificent, alike in the pathetic and the humorous portions. To add to the pleasure of the evening, Mrs. F. M. Tapley, wife of the Vicar of All Saints', Twickenham, sang several songs delightfully. The Rev. Murray Tapley, Hon. Chaplain to the Institution, also kindly arranged for the choir of men and boys, under the direction of Mr. Ramsay, to sing carols between the intervals of the recital. At the conclusion, Mr. C. Douglas Stuart, secretary to the Institution, expressed the warmest thanks to Miss Brinckman for her kindness in again visiting the home, and giving those present such a capital evening's recreation, also for her generosity in seeing that the old folks had suitable refreshment. He also thanked Mr. and Mrs. Tapley and the choir. Miss Brinckman, in reply, said it was always a pleasure for her to visit "Brinsworth" and her old friends, and Mr. Tapley also spoke.

FRED
CURRAN
wishes to thank the following authors for successful songs in 1919:—
R. P. WESTON,
BERT. LEE,
Wm. HARGREAVES,
HARRY CASTLING,
AND
FRED FULTON.

* * *

FRED
CURRAN
has sung more successful songs in the last ten years than any comic singer in the business . .

* * *

FRED
CURRAN
also thanks
GEORGE
BARCLAY
for a full date book.

"THE ERA" FILM SECTION

TOPICS OF THE TRADE.

THEATRE AND CINEMA LICENCES.

SOME PARADOXICAL OBJECTIONS.

The report that the majority of the West End theatres have obtained cinema licences and that during the dull summer months many of them will, in all probability, run a picture programme instead of closing down, has created, as was only to be expected, some apprehension in cinematographic circles. The objection held by a not inconsiderable section of the Film Trade to pictures being shown in "legitimate" theatres is because "the theatre and the cinema has each its own mechanical appurtenances, each differing materially from the other. For instance, theatres constructed for the spoken drama are designed with acoustics as one of the prime considerations—a different arrangement of seats is also possible—while the stage may be viewed from wide angles without detriment to the entertainment. The motion picture theatre, on the other hand, need pay little attention to its acoustic properties. But it is vitally important that the seats be arranged so that the screen is in a direct line of vision." With much more to the same effect, all emphasising the contention that theatres and cinemas should be devoted exclusively to the class of entertainment they were, respectively, built for.

THE REAL REASON.

Now our unique position—held by no other journal which deals largely with film matters—makes us concerned equally with the welfare of the theatrical business and the cinema business, and compels our situation, in this particular controversy, to be that of a looker-on. But it is the looker-on who sees most of the game, and so, from this view-point, we can say that we have never heard more unconvincing or more paradoxical arguments against anything than those urged above. They re-act on the writer, for if they apply as he desires, then they must equally apply to the hundreds of cases in which "legitimate" theatres have been acquired by cinema companies and, irrespective of whether they had paid their way or not, turned into picturedromes, while still retaining their "acoustic" and other essential theatrical properties. One of London's most prosperous suburban playhouses, the Kennington Theatre, has recently been saved by Mr. Ernest Rolls from such a fate, to the entire approval of its large number of regular patrons.

The objections against the kind of policy which it is alleged that so many "legitimate" theatres are shortly to pursue are, to put it plainly, mere "camouflage" to cover the only real and legitimate objection they could possibly entertain, namely, that the change will, possibly, make keen competition of a kind which may be disastrous to the cinemas. That is a perfectly fair and reasonable contention, strong enough to be put forward without any disguise.

ROUND ABOUT FILMLAND.

A Modern "Taming of the Shrew"—Fairy Play and Drama Combined—Praise from Japan.

"Impossible Catherine."

"Impossible Catherine," which will have its London trade show on the 15th at the London Pavilion, at 2.30 p.m., features that fine actress Virginia Pearson, and also Sheldon Lewis. "Impossible Catherine," which will, we hear, impress everyone anew with the versatility of its talented star, is Shakespeare's Kate of "The Taming of the Shrew," brought right up to date. The picture is good for many a hearty laugh, with an occasional moment of breathless suspense over some tense situation.

The imperious, shrewish Catherine Kimberly, daughter of a millionaire and mistress absolute of her own will, is captured by a man who looks forward with great glee to breaking her wild-cat spirit. In adapting his own story to the screen Frank S. Beresford has made the most of every comedy situation and embellished it with some breezy comedy sub-titles.

The Art of the Scenario Writer.

The ever-increasing growth of the film business creates a demand for plays suitable for the cinema, and thus an opportunity is afforded for the man or woman who possesses the ability to write a scenario. But without a guide to this difficult art the playwright is not likely to achieve his object, and hence the value of a course of twelve lessons, which under the title of "How to Become a Scenario Writer," has been prepared by Mr. Langford Reid (who has written over a hundred scenarios, which have been produced in this country and elsewhere), and published by the Standard Art Book Co., Ltd. (Dept. 10), 2, Bramham-gardens, S.W. 5. Mr. Reid is well qualified by his wide experience to give practical advice in the by no means easy art of scenario writing, and his course of instruction includes every detail of importance to the learner. The book of 460 pages contains 30 illustrations, and can be recommended as a reliable guide.

Pathé.

The House of Pathé have a fine collection of serials for release during the present year. The first to be introduced to the public will be that thriller, "The Tiger's Trail," released on the 23rd of next month. This production features Ruth Roland, who, by the way, is at present working on another startling serial for Pathé's entitle "The Adventures of Ruth," which has been written by herself, and promises to be one of the most exciting serials ever exploited. "The Tiger's Trail" will be followed in June by "The Great Gamble," featuring lovely Anne Luther and the champion stunt actor, Charles Hutchison. Then in September comes Pearl White in "The Black Secret." Robert W. Chambers is responsible for the enthralling story of "The Black Secret," which was photo-dramatised from his thrilling novel, "In Secret."

"The Princess From the Poorhouse."

United Kingdom Photoplays, Ltd., announce a trade show at their own theatre, Charing Cross House, 29a, Charing Cross-road, on Friday, Jan. 9, at 3 p.m., of an Edison De Luxe five-reeler, entitled "The Princess From the Poorhouse," featuring amongst others Francine Larrimore, Richard Tucker, Helen Strickland, and Leo Gordon. "The Princess From the Poorhouse" is, we hear, a delightful blend of a fairy play and drama of modern life. It will appeal to all who love a simple story of childhood's rosy dreams, which flourish even in the squalid surroundings of the poorhouse and factory. These dreams are eventually realised, and the spell of the wicked enchantress broken by truth and love. "The Princess From the Poorhouse" will appeal to all sections of the picture-loving public, both young and old.

Granger's.

Both "The Cry of the Weak" and "The Profiteers" are, we hear, proving good Granger bookers. "The Profiteers," which is now released, and is being accorded a very gratifying reception from the public, has a strong topical interest. "The Cry of the Weak" shows Fannie Ward in her own beautiful and artistic home, for it was within its walls and gardens that this play, which deals with criminals and their ultimate reclamation on merciful lines, is unfolded.

"The Husband Hunter."

Granger's first offer in Leap Year is the Samuelson play, "The Husband Hunter." "The Husband Hunter" is from the novel by Olivia Roy, and its scenes are laid in both England and Egypt. There are some London pictures, showing Hyde Park and Kensington Gardens in all their sylvan glory, with a long view of the Albert Memorial. "The Husband Hunter" will be Granger's first London trade show for 1920, on Jan. 14, at their new time of showing—eleven, and not quarter-past as in 1919.

The Premier Cinema School.

Messrs. Arthur Williams and F. Travis, who are building a modern studio at Southsea for the instruction of pupils in cinema acting, have secured the services of Mr Lionelle Howard, the well-known film actor and author, as instructor. Mr. Williams tells us that one of the reasons for having the studio at Southsea is that they are hoping to produce one or two films, and that that part of the country is very suitable. Messrs. Williams and Travis, who have already a large following of pupils, only endeavour to find employment for those who are suited, and return the students' money, less a small charge for expenses, should they think they have not the necessary ability. Pupils are also being trained for all branches of stage work, under the supervision of Mr. Arthur Williams. The temporary offices, where all particulars may be obtained, are at 2, Waverley-road, Southsea.

Hepworth Player's Japanese Admirer.

Mr. Henry Edwards, the famous Hepworth producer and picture player, has received the following letter from an admirer in Japan:—"Tokio, Japan. Oct., 1919. Henry Edwards, Esq., Dear Friend,—I like you. I saw 'Broken Threads' in which you act. I think your actions are very good. I admire your arts and action, and your expression of emotion are very good. You have the smart. You have the attractiveness. Truly you are manlike. I love your all. I want to see you, but I am the Japanese. Therefor I live in Japan you live in England. So I want your photograph, I am very glad. When I shall ornate it on my desk. I see it every day, and I have a enjoy.—Goodby, Your intimate friend, S—— J——."

Mr. Edwards has suitably replied.

Broadwest Brevities.

Mr. Walter West, the well-known producer, is now hard at work on the first of the 1920 Broadwest racing films.

Poppy Wyndham, the Broadwest player, has, we hear, received a pair of canaries as a gift from a London admirer.

Gregory Scott had a record mail this Christmas. Amongst his presents were a pair of moccasins from Canada, an antique silver reading lamp, and a pair of Eastern pictures from Egypt.

"Under Suspicion," the beautiful Broadwest film of Russian life, has just been released. The leading players are Hilda Bayley, Horace Hunter, Jack Jarman, and Cameron Carr.

PROGRESS FILM.
FRANK E. SPRING presents
JOAN MORGAN
IN THE
EDGAR JEPSON NOVEL—CICELY HAMILTON PLAY—
SYDNEY MORGAN PRODUCTION—
'LADY NOGGS'
World's Rights will be offered at
THE LONDON PAVILION,
On WEDNESDAY, JAN. 14, at 2.30.
Popular London Cast, including
ARTHUR LENNARD, GEORGE BELLAMY,
YOLANDE DUGETTE, JENNIE EARLE.

THERE ARE NONE SO BLIND AS
THOSE WHO WILL NOT SEE.
OPEN YOUR EYES
SEVEN ACTS.
THE MOST DARING & THRILLING
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STRICTLY PRIVATE VIEWING
AT THE
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KINGSWAY.
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ALL SEATS NUMBERED AND RESERVED
Admission will be on production
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"THE ERA" FILM SECTION

TRADE SHOWS OF THE WEEK.

By "THE ERA" SPECIAL REVIEWERS.

"MARKED CARDS."

SNOBBISH SOCIETY MOTHER'S FOLLY AND THE SEQUEL.

Production .... Western Import
Star .... Margery Wilson
Type .... Drama
Length .... Five Parts

Forbidden to marry the girl of his choice, a rich girl named Nora Shannon, on account of her plebeian origin, young Teddy Barwick goes to the bad, and becomes involved with a shady gambling set. At one of their frequent orgies, where, in addition to cards, the wine flows freely, the chief gambler is shot dead during a dispute, and Teddy is arrested and tried for murder. Nora has, however, been a silent witness of the crime, having, in order to escape from a disagreeable chaperone, fled into a room which happened to overlook the scene of the tragedy. She makes a dramatic entry into court at the trial, absolves her lover, and points out the real culprit. The girl thus breaks down the barrier of caste and she is effusively welcomed as her son's fiancée by the mother who had previously spurned her. The very dramatic enactment of the court scene in itself will ensure the success of this film.

[See our Film Markings.]

* * *

"JORDAN IS A HARD ROAD."

AN OUTLAW'S REGENERATION.

Production .... Western Import
Stars ..Dorothy Gish and Owen Moore
Type .... Drama
Length .... Five Parts

This is an absorbing drama of a bandit who, softened for the first time in his life by the death of his wife, leaves his infant daughter in the charge of a faithful neighbour, together with a large sum of money for her bringing-up, his final and emphatic instruction being that the girl be for ever kept in ignorance of his character. The outlaw remains away for several years, during which time he had continued his criminal practices. But on his return to his old town he follows a dainty little girl into the scripture hall where she is the organist, and in a striking scene, in which the facial by-play of the actor is a remarkable feature, the hardened criminal makes his way to the platform and implores Divine forgiveness. It is only now that he realises that the girl he had followed is his own daughter. The play affords much opportunity for emotional acting, of which the principals take full advantage.

[See our Film Markings.]

* * *

"A FIGHT FOR LOVE."

A SERIES OF THRILLING ADVENTURES WITH A LEAVEN OF LOVE INTEREST.

Production ......Gaumont Photo-Play
Type .... Drama
Stars ..Harry Carey and Neva Gerber
Length ....Five Reels (4,910 feet)
Release .... Dec. 13, 1920.

This story of adventure amid the picturesque fastnesses of the Rocky Mountains, with excellent photographs of exquisite scenery of pine woods, silvery lakes, and snow-covered forests, has the magnetic attraction of our old friend, Cheyenne Harry, the intrepid champion of damsels in distress. In the course of this story of the deadly struggle between our hero and the half-breed, Black Michael, betrayer of women, whisky smuggler, and murderer, there is a pretty love interest and a large fund of humour introduced, and the fighting parson of J. Farrell Macdonald as Father André is a novel and pleasing feature. The Canadian Mounted Police also figure in the pictures, and the scenes of Tall Pine's Indian encampment are very interesting. The series of deadly struggles, culminating in Black Michael, as picturesquely played by Joseph Harris, being hurled down a precipice, are thrilling in the extreme, and the love passages are deftly and delightfully introduced. Harry Carey is better than ever as Cheyenne Harry, and Neva Gerber is daintiness personified, and acts with humorous perception as the spirited girl, Kate MacAlcer.

[See our Film Markings.]

* * *

"LITTLE BROTHER OF THE RICH."

HOW AN ACTOR SCORES OVER A SOCIETY GRAFTER.

Production .... Universal
Stars ......Kathryn Adams, J. Barney Sherry, and Frank Mayo
Type .... Drama
Length .... Six Parts
Controllers .... Phillips

"A little brother of the rich" is the phrase adopted to describe one who is but on the threshold of the rich, and is thus the more likely to drop back into the lower strata of society from which he had barely emerged. Such a one is Paul Potter, who, in order to ease his way up the social ladder, neglects, and is consequently discarded in anger by Sylvia Castle, the girl to whom he had been engaged. Sylvia, eventually, through the good offices of an actor, whom, in an emergency, she had helped, becomes a leading star of the stage, and she is again sought by Potter. But this worthless fellow, on offering Sylvia his "protection," but not marriage, is indignantly shown off the premises, and the young actress, realising the baseness of her one-time fiancé, turns to the courtly histrion, to whom she owes all, the story ending on their happy union. The character of the actor is a very sympathetic one, and is admirably enacted by Mr. J. Barney Sherry, Miss Kathryn Adams and Frank Mayo also being excellent. The photography and stage setting were superb.

* * *

"MARIE, LTD."

THE BEST-LAID SCHEMES OF MATCH-MAKING MAMMAS "AFT GANG AGLEY."

Production .... Walturdaw
Type .... Drama
Star .... Alice Brady
Length ..Five Reels (about 4,900 feet)

This film, of which the trade show took place on Friday, 2nd inst., is a pretty unconventional love story. The photographs of interiors are excellently taken, and the film is notable for the remarkably fine acting and expressiveness of Alice Brady, who is as clever as she is charming in the part of the heroine. Marie Hilliard's tricky way of running a bonnet shop, so as to charge the women customers but little, and divide with them the overcharge on the real male patron, has enabled her to give her daughter, Drina, a college education. When Drina comes to help in the business as repayment for her mother's kindness, she speedily revolts against these malpractices, also against the chief male customer, a multi-millionaire, Col. Lambert by name, whom her mother wants her to marry. Her fancy falls on young Blair Carson, a handsome young man, whom another match-making mamma destines for her daughter, and who had rescued her from bandits early in the story. In the end, after many trials and tribulations, nature is justified, in the preference of a good girl for ardent, impecunious youth, rather than for blasé, debauched affluence. Besides Alice Brady's delightful performance as Drina Hilliard, Leslie Austen is capital as Blair Carson, and Frank Losee, Gladys Valerie, and others seen in minor rôles.

[See our Film Markings.]

* * *

"THE RIGHT ELEMENT."

WEALTH BRINGS UNHAPPINESS IN ITS WAKE.

Production .... Samuelson
Type .... Drama
Stars ..Campbell Gullan, Miriam Ferris
Length .... Five Reels
Distributors .... Granger's

This is a film of homely English life at its best, cleverly acted by Campbell Gullan and Miriam Ferris. The story introduces us to two lovable characters, who, ignoring the call of wealth, marry for love, and make their suburban home a haven of happiness. Clouds gather when the wife falls ill, and requires the services of an expensive surgeon. Having nothing for a rainy day, the husband is forced to gamble, and thereby lays the foundation of a fortune. The couple henceforward forsake their "right element" and live their life among the denizens of Mayfair. Gradually they drift apart till the fortune vanishes as quickly as it came, but finally husband and wife, having learnt their lesson and once more in their right element, settle down to a life of love and contentment.

[See our Film Markings.]

* * *

"HAPPINESS A LA MODE."

YOUNG WIFE'S DEVICE TO REGAIN HUSBAND'S AFFECTION.

Production .... Walturdaw
Star .... Constance Talmadge
Type .... Drama
Length .... Five Parts

This is a story of a domestic squabble—happily but a storm in a teacup—which occurs in the household of a recently married couple, Barbara and Dick Townsend. The wife, under the impression that a nagging and inquisitive woman soon becomes a burden to her husband, takes an extremely opposite course, with the result that Dick comes to the conclusion that Barbara is indifferent to him, and he sues for a divorce, which is granted, subject to a three months' probation. Though Dick still loves his wife, he falls into the clutches of a designing woman, and promises to make her his wife at the end of the suspensory period. Barbara, however, does not want to lose her husband, and in a series of delightful scenes adopts methods similar to her supplanter; with the result that she more than regains the temporary loss of her husband's esteem, and the curtain falls on as complete a reconciliation between the two as one could wish to witness. The acting was admirable, and the photography perfect.

[See our Film Markings.]

* * *

"THROUGH THE WRONG DOOR."

WESTERNER ENLISTS CUPID'S AID IN REVENGE.

Production .... Goldwyn
Type .... Comedy-Drama
Star .... Madge Kennedy
Length .... Five Reels
Distributors .... Stoll Film Co.

Charmingly acted, excellently produced, and with humour and pathos well blended, "Through the Wrong Door" is a typical example of Madge Kennedy's art. The daughter of a prominent New Yorker accompanies her father to the West, where by an accident she wanders into the wrong flat, meets a most attractive young man, and forthwith loses her heart. After a few hours her new friend realises that his unknown visitor is the daughter of the man responsible for his ruin. He 'phones the anxious father his daughter's whereabouts, and the scandal-fearing parent arrives to find that the young people have eloped.

[See our Film Markings.]

* * *

"THE WINNER TAKES ALL."

A TYPICAL WESTERN LOVE ROMANCE.

Production .... Transatlantic
Type .... Drama
Star .... Monroe Salisbury
Length .... Five Reels
Distributors .... Neville Bruce

A Western drama of undoubted drawing power, the production is notable for the acting of Monroe Salisbury, who, in the rôle of Alan Macdonald, excels. Saul Chachon, a ruthless cattle baron, does his best to hinder the settlers in their daily work. Alan Macdonald, a firm champion of the oppressed, falls in love with Francis Landcraft, a friend of Chachon's daughter Nola. Nola is kidnapped by an ill-paid tool of her father's, and Alan realises that Francis does not trust him. He sets out to restore the girl to her father, and after many adventures succeeds in his mission. Later Chachon is killed, and with a brighter era dawning for his people, Alan feels justified in asking Francis to become his wife.

[See our Film Markings.]

A GREAT FIGHT FILMED.

Two minutes of sensation such as to make the nerves tingle with excitement are provided in the picture of the fight between Dempsey, the heavy-weight champion of the world, and Willard, the challenger, which was shown at the F.B.O. private theatre on Wednesday. The fight is justly described as one of the most thrilling in the annals of the boxing ring, and interest is heightened by the fact that the winner is shortly to meet Carpentier, who recently knocked out Beckett in the first round.

The contest took place in a specially built arena, capable of holding 100,000 people, and we are shown the building of the structure, the boards of which, if placed end to end, would, we are assured, reach from New York to Chicago. The camps of the rival fighters, their training, and a hundred and one things which are seldom shown in features of this type, give added zest to the picture.

The tour de force of the fight is the first round, in which Willard, who towered some six inches over his opponent, was floored no fewer than seven times. The seventh hit, however, was delivered after the bell had sounded, and Willard could not be counted out. There was no real knock-out blow, for Willard's seconds later on threw up the sponge, and Dempsey was proclaimed victor.

FILM ACTORS' NOTES.

Stewart Rome and a "Fit Up."

Stewart Rome, the popular Broadwest screen player, tells an amusing story of the time when he was touring with a "fit up" theatrical company. At one town where they were billed, the "theatre" consisted of an old barn, and as the roof was very low the scenery proved too big. "The whole company," says Mr. Rome, "set to work to make the best of a bad job, and eventually everything was ready for the opening night. Then the leading lady fell ill, and the only available deputy was a small part player who was something of an Amazon.

"Everything went well until the big love scene, when the lady is supposed to visit my room. There came the tap at the door, and I shouted 'Come in,' but alas! the door would not open, despite the strenuous efforts of the lady on the other side. Suddenly there came a splintering of wood, and I saw the door hanging by a shred of canvas, whilst the lady staggered breathlessly into the room. By this time the audience was convulsed with laughter, and although we bravely persevered with our lines, it was useless. The people in front would not take us seriously. The next night the house was empty!"

Miss Chrissie White.

Miss Chrissie White, the famous Hepworth picture player, had a nasty spill the other day whilst motor cycling from her home at Chiswick to the Hepworth studios at Walton-on-Thames. She had just passed Richmond when the greasy state of the roads caused her machine to skid, and Miss White was thrown violently to the ground. Fortunately she escaped with a few bruises and scratches, and nothing daunted, pluckily mounted her machine and continued her journey. Miss White uses her "Scott" every day that weather conditions permit, and much prefers this mode of locomotion to the more lengthy journey by train.

SIR ERNEST SHACKLETON'S ANTARCTIC STORY.

Sir Ernest Shackleton is telling the story of his latest Antarctic expedition and showing the marvellous moving pictures taken by Captain Frank Hurley (photographer to the expedition) at the Philharmonic Hall, Great Portland-street, twice daily (2.30 and 8.30 p.m.).

The two years' fight against fortune is compressed into two vivid and interesting hours. We see the Endurance leaving Buenos Aires. After crashing through 1,500 miles of ice, it is locked in, and drifts for nine months on the frozen sea. The strenuous fight against the elements, whilst the Endurance is being relentlessly crushed by the ice pressure till the masts are finally torn out of the ship, which has to be abandoned 350 miles from land, is vividly portrayed. The camps formed on the drifting ice, and the numerous adventures of the crew till their arrival at Valparaiso, form a story of British pluck and endurance that all should see. Some delightful pictures of bird and animal life, together with the scenery of South Georgia and the enormous glaciers, give additional interest to Sir Ernest Shackleton's lecture.

Western Import.

Two more "Every-week" dramas will be screened at Western Import's private theatre to-morrow (Thursday) at 2.45 p.m., and on Friday, Jan. 9, at 11 a.m. and 2.45 p.m. The first is entitled "Cactus Crandall." Roy Stewart is starred in this smashing Western as a Texas ranger who, riding into the town of Texico, a veritable hornet's nest of bandits, rescues Helen Ware and her father from their evil clutches. Mendoza, the chief, recaptures Helen, and Bob again comes to her aid. This time he settles for ever Mendoza's evil practices.

The other drama is "Cassidy," starring Dick Rosson. It is the story of a homeless and penniless lad who returns with heavy interest the kindness that had been shown to him by his only friend.

Pictures at the Alhambra.

The two important films, Miss Ethel M. Dell's novel, "The Keeper of the Door," featuring Peggy Carlisle and Basil Gill, and "A Tale of Two Cities," with William Farnum as Sydney Carton, will be exhibited twice daily at the Alhambra next week.

FORTHCOMING TRADE SHOWS.

LONDON.

Charles Chaplin in A Day's Pleasure (West. Imp.), Stoll P.T., 11, Jan. 7.
The Blue Bandanna (Jury), Own Theatre, 10 and 3, Jan. 7.
Pirates of the Air (Moss), London Pavilion, 3, Jan. 7.
A Successful Failure (Walkers), Shaftesbury, 11.15, Jan. 7.
The Midnight Man (Serial) (Transatlantic), Shaftesbury, 11.15, Jan. 8.
Charge it to Me (Astra), Super Cinema, 11.30, Jan. 8.
Cactus Crandall (West. Imp.), Own T., 2.30, Jan. 8; 11 and 2.30, Jan. 9.
Elusive Pimpernel (Stoll), London Pavilion, 3, Jan. 9.
Always in the Wrong (Walturdaw), Shaftesbury Pav., 11.15, Jan. 9.
Princess from the Poorhouse (U.K.), Own T., 3, Jan. 9.
Husband Hunter (Granger), West End, 11, Jan. 14.
Impossible Catherine (Pathé), Pavilion, 2.30, Jan. 15.

BIRMINGHAM.

Eastward Ho! (Fox), New-street P.H., 11, Jan. 7.
Jordan is a Hard Road (West. Imp.), Scala, 11, Jan. 7.
The Dark Star, Stepping Out (F.-Lasky), Scala, 11, Jan. 9.
Dangerous Waters (Jury), Own Theatre, 2.30, Jan. 9.
The Midnight Man (Serial), Theatre de Luxe, 11, Jan. 9.
Her Purchase Price (Jury), Own Theatre, 2.30, Jan. 13.

BELFAST.

The Joyous Liar (Gaumont), Own Theatre, Jan. 7.

BRISTOL.

Silver Lining (Gaumont), Palace, Baldwin-street, 11.30, Jan. 7.
The Speed Maniac (Fox), Clare-street P.H., 11, Jan. 7.
The Cry of the Weak (Granger), Livermore's Palace, 11.30, Jan. 9.
The Rajah's Amulet (Granger), Livermore's Palace, 11.30, Jan. 9.
The Midnight Man (Serial), Palace, 11, Jan. 10.

CARDIFF.

Jordan is a Hard Road (West. Imp.), 16, Priory-street, 11 and 2.30, Jan. 8 and 10.
Widow by Proxy, Putting It Over, (F.-Lasky), 16, Priory-street, 11, Jan. 9.
Her Purchase Price (Jury), Olympia, 2.30, Jan. 9.
The Swindler (Stoll), Pavilion, 11.30, Jan. 9.
The Ragamuffin (Walturdaw), Castle Cinema, 11.15, Jan. 9.
The Midnight Man (Serial) (Transatlantic), Olympia, 11, Jan. 9.
The Dragon Painter (Jury), Olympia, 2.30, Jan. 13.
Rajah's Amulet (Granger), Park Hall, 11.30, Jan. 13.

DUBLIN.

Bondage of Barbara (Stoll), 2, Burgh-quay, 3, Jan. 9.

GLASGOW.

Her Purchase Price (Jury), Own Theatre, 2.30, Jan. 7.
As a Man Lives (L.I.F.T.), Salon, 11, Jan. 7.
With Edged Tools (Bendon), Cranston's, 11, Jan. 7.
The Rajah's Amulet (Granger), Cranston's, 11, Jan. 8.
The Forest on the Hill (Scottish Ex. Co.), Savoy, 11, Jan. 9.
The Virtuous Model (Pathé), Own Theatre, 11 and 3, Jan. 9.
The Dragon Painter (Jury), Own Theatre, 2.30, Jan. 9.
Getting Mary Married, A Great Coup (Argosy), Own Theatre, 11 and 2.30, Jan. 9.
Habit of Happiness (West. Imp.), 182, Trongate, 2.30, Jan. 9.

LEEDS.

His Pirate Gold (Walkers), Cinema Ex., 2.30, Jan. 7.
The Grey Wolf's Ghost (Jury), Cinema Ex., 2.30, Jan. 7.
The Midnight Man (Serial) (Transatlantic), Picture House, Jan. 7.
The House of Intrigue (Jury), Cinema Ex., 3.30, Jan. 9.
Mr. Goode the Samaritan (West. Imp.), Cinema Ex., 10.40, Jan. 9.
The Illustrious Prince (Jury), Cinema Ex., 10.40, Jan. 13.

LIVERPOOL.

The Conqueror (West. Imp.), City P.H., 11, Jan. 7.
The Shot of Mystery (Gaumont), Scala, 11, Jan. 8.
The Shot of Mystery (Gaumont), Own Theatre, 2.30, Jan. 8.
The Dark Star, Stepping Out (F.-Lasky), Scala, 11, Jan. 9.
The Grey Wolf's Ghost (Jury), Cinema Ex., 2.30, Jan. 9.
Snow in the Desert (Walturdaw), City P.H., 11, Jan. 9.
Snow in the Desert (Walturdaw), Own Theatre, 3, Jan. 9.
The Virtuous Model (Pathé), Own Theatre, 11 and 2.30, Jan. 13.

MANCHESTER.

La Belle Russe (Fox), Oxford-street P.H., 11, Jan. 7.
Dangerous Waters (Jury), Cinema Ex., 2.30, Jan. 7.
Fight for Love (Gaumont), Own Theatre, 11 and 2.30, Jan. 7.
Life (L.I.F.T.), Deansgate P.H., 11, Jan. 7.
Open Market (Palatine), Own Theatre, 11, Jan. 7.
Snow in the Desert (Walturdaw), Cinema Ex., 11, Jan. 7
Sweet and Twenty (Progress), Deansgate P.H., 11, Jan. 8.
The Conqueror (West. Imp.), Own Theatre, 2.30, Jan. 8.
Kitty Kelly, M.D. (Jury), Cinema Ex., 2.30, Jan. 9.
Through the Wrong Door (Stoll), Oxford-street P.H., 11, Jan. 9.
Through the Wrong Door (Stoll), Own Theatre, 3, Jan. 9.
The Conqueror (West. Imp.), Own Theatre, 11 and 2.30, Jan. 9.
The Grey Wolf's Ghost (Jury), Kinema Ex., 2.30, Jan. 13.
Jordan is a Hard Road (West. Imp.), Deansgate, 11 and 2.30, Jan. 13.

NEWCASTLE.

Widow by Proxy, Putting It Over (F.-Lasky), Granger P.T., 11, Jan. 7.
Habit of Happiness (West. Imp.), Own Theatre, 11, Jan. 7.
Queen's Evidence (Moss), Queen's Hall, 11.15, Jan. 7.
The Right Element (Granger), Queen's Hall, 1.15, Jan. 8.
Mind the Paint Girl (Jury), Own Theatre, 11 and 2.30, Jan. 9.
City of Comrades (Stoll), Futurist, 11 Jan. 9.
The Lady Clare (Phillips), Queen's Hall, 11, Jan. 9.

NOTTINGHAM.

The Dark Star, Stepping Out (F.-Lasky) Parliament-street P.H., 11, Jan. 7.
The Midnight Man (Serial) (Trans-Atlantic), Parliament-street P.H., 11, Jan. 7.

SHEFFIELD.

The Shot of Mystery (Gaumont), Electra Palace, 11, Jan. 7.
The Midnight Man (Serial) (Trans-Atlantic), Theatre Royal, 11, Jan. 8.
The Dark Star, Stepping Out (F.-Lasky), 126, Norfolk-street, 11, Jan. 9.
The Illustrious Prince (Jury), Own Theatre, 11 and 2.30, Jan. 9.
Rajah's Amulet (Granger), Sheffield P.P., 11, Jan. 13.
The Conqueror (West. Imp.), Clayton's Bioscope, 11, Jan. 13.

CINEMA ENTERPRISE IN POLAND.

PREFERENCE FOR BRITISH FILMS.

By TOM TITT.

Recent information received from Poland shows that the German film manufacturers are trying very hard to flood that country with their cheap productions bearing the assumed trade marks of neutral countries and the Poles are at a loss how to keep the perpetrators of Silesian atrocities out of their country, as they are tempting Polish men of business with most favourable terms. The Polish film houses are therefore looking out for the representatives of the film companies of this country, as the proverbial preference given to the products of Britain and traditional objection to anything German would assure an opening up of new markets for British-made pictures which would receive the warmest of welcomes; but to make the best use of this opportunity British producers should recognise that they ought to adapt their subjects to the tastes of Polish audiences. The difficulties met with by the British film exporters in satisfying the varied tastes of different foreign nationalities would be obviated in the case of Poland, for the Poles are ready to accept and appreciate anything and everything that Britain can send them. They would be all the more pleased to see the British pictures if they were aware of the fact that their own productions were being accorded the same reception in Great Britain.

An Exchange of Films.

A representative of four chief Polish film companies—viz., The "Kornak" Film Co., Ltd., The "Lux" Film Hiring Bureau, The "Sfinks" Film Export and Import Co., The "Polfilma" Kinematograph Association has already secured several of the best British films. One film he has been offered at two different renting houses, one house quoting the film at a shilling per foot, another at twopence per foot. He tells me that there is a great opening for films of any kind and description, so long as the Polish public is satisfied that the films are of genuine British make. He says that the Polish film companies would stipulate that the hiring or buying of British films should be made on the following basis:—For each definite quantity of films hired or bought on the usual terms, a stipulated number of Polish films should be accepted in exchange on easy terms for the British renter.

Distinctive Subjects.

The Polish films in question are of a topical nature, but topical only locally, and from the foreign point of view they are full of interest, as they were being taken gradually during the advance of the Polish troops fighting on different fronts, and represent various episodes on the march of the Poles through various towns and districts, each district possessing distinct representative types of the local population, typical costumes, mode of living, customs, etc.

These films one could classify as travels in unknown regions. Strange architecture, weird aspects of landscape, curious human types, uncommon-looking beasts are constantly met on the way as the camera man is going along taking pictures from the car, while now and then some skirmish with the Bolshies is seen at a range of "good visibility." Charges of Polish cavalry, field services held with all military pomp in the presence of local notables, clergy and peasants and Jews garbed according to the district where the operations are taking place—all these when shown on the screen make quite a distinctive kind of film. Nothing similar, at any rate in London, has ever been shown in this country—except, may be, as far as its uniqueness goes, the present series of "Life Amongst Cannibals" films. It would be no exaggeration to say that some of the Bolshevik prisoners as seen in the Polish films are little different from the inhabitants of the Solomon Islands "practising their burials alive." There are in existence films showing the atrocities perpetrated by the Ukrainian Bolsheviks, Lithuanian Bolsheviks, and Germans upon the Polish population; but I must say they were never shown to the public, being too gruesome. The Polish films cover an inexhaustible range and variety of subjects, and represent vistas of "scenes" full of life and animation not to be met in any other country. There are pictures depicting the free spirit of the woodland and taken by the camp fires of the Polish soldiery—bivouacking in the manner of the Napoleonic era—the same soldiers following now the track of the Grand Armée of 1812.

A Camera Man's Paradise.

As the Poles were advancing in White Ruthenia they came across a forest of romance, which answers to the name of Bialowiejska Puszcza. One can see the pictures of a primeval forest—lake and marsh and trackless undergrowth in which the buffalo and the boar, the otter and wild cat, and all sorts of big game are to be seen. It is a camera man's paradise, and the "Sfinks" man travelling in the wake of the Polish army was able to secure some wonderful pictures from these enormous stretches of woodland full of animal life, and vast territory which still remains in a wild state. At one time the camera man was lost sight of by the officer (Captain Mond), and a guide that had accompanied him. A search party was sent, and the man was found busily engaged inspecting the bark of a tree which, after some time of persistent tapping, yielded a refreshing beverage, to the great delight of the company. The time was not lost, and Captain M. was filming that interesting incident reminiscent of similar episodes from the life of Robinson Crusoe.

Life of Paderewski.

One of the most lavishly staged productions of the Polish film industry will be the one recording the life of the great Polish patriot, Paderewski. It depicts him as a child already manifesting signs of genius, features incidents from his eventful boyhood, describes the most exciting moments of his brilliant career as the greatest virtuoso of modern times, and eventually, like Cincinnatus, called from the plough to take the reins of his country, the great pianist is shown at the height of his meteoric career and popularity as a Polish statesman attending to the interests of his nation at Versailles, performing State business at the Warsaw Castle in the Diet, public banquets, etc. The latest public function of Paderewski, which undoubtedly will be included in this film, is the inspection of the detachment of the London police, of which the Polish Premier is a great admirer, sent to Warsaw to form a nucleus of the future police force in Poland.

It will be interesting to watch, while sitting in a London cinema, the motley crowd, which makes up the traffic of Warsaw, being regulated by an English "bobby," and being surrounded by a crowd of Polish kiddies and Warsaw stargazers. From the streets of Warsaw (the Paris of the East) the camera man will take us into the prairies ("steppes") of Volhynia, where the reckless horsemen of the Cossack mien and mettle are seen with a pack of "Borzoy" dogs chasing after a wolf or a hare; high in the skies are seen, what may be mistaken for "Gothas," flocks of wild ducks flying in regular formation.

The Picturesque Carpathians.

On the lower right in front of the camera can be seen (in the "Sfinks" film) heron and wild geese. As the car enters the village, on the top of the straw-covered houses are seen storks' nests, and in the village all the peacefulness of the rustic life. Next our camera man transports us into the Carpathian Mountains, and shows us scenes not to be met with in Switzerland or Tyrol, Apennines or Andes, Caucasus or Tibet. This replica of the Rockies in the wilderness of the snow-clad Carpathian passes is very fascinating as we move up the winding wood-road, through dim aisles of whispering pine trees, along the high banks of thundering, foaming, rushing streams.

Snow-clad summits and ragged peaks appear now and again like beautiful ghosts against the dark blue of the skies. In the clearness of the air a white eagle and swift hawk are poised above the granite rocks hanging over the precipice on which an antelope stands stationary, while down the slopes a brown bear is slowly shuffling away. In the transparent clear atmosphere the Carpathians look bare and rugged, the only softening of their outline being due to the masses of black pines, which seem like the shading of a cunning artist's pencil.

Ukrainian Settlements.

On the high banks of the river Zbrucz, where the famous castle of Zbaraz stands, Captain Mond's party was settled. Looking across towards Podolia a vast vista of treeless prairie, dotted here and there with "stanitzas," stretched before our eyes. These settlements of Ukrainian ranchers were so tempting for the camera man that, although a deep and whirling river separated us from a technically "enemy country," yet the operator could not be persuaded from abandoning his mad attempt to swim the river, bringing his camera over the wire.

An intelligent operator sent by any of the British film companies to explore the south-east provinces of Poland, full of grandeur and charm, would find these regions offering all the possibilities for filming stories of passionate romance showing the free spirit of Podolian prairies, see tales of love told amidst natural settings of Volhynia, big gripping dramas played by local actors amidst the wild summits and rugged peaks of the mountains. All these beautiful settings to Polish films should make them attractive and desirable in a country like England, where everybody appreciates the romantic and uncommon in foreign countries.

Gaumont.

The interesting announcement is made by the Gaumont Company this week that they will present a series of first-class British comedies to run in succession to the Christie Comedies Set No. 11. These "Will o' Wisp" comedies are for the most part domestic stories, and will feature Arthur Riscoe, Nita Russell, Cyril Smith, Heather Thatcher, &c. It has been arranged to show a selection of these comedies at the trade show of "Making Her His Wife," at the Shaftesbury Pavilion, on Jan. 29. The comedies are now being produced at the rate of one week, and as far as can be foreseen at present, there will be no interruption in their regular supply.

The Scala, Hammersmith.

Mr. Karl Van Biene, the manager of the Scala Picture Theatre, Hammersmith, son of the late Auguste Van Biene, who took over the management of this theatre last August, has augmented the orchestra, which is a first-class one. It is proposed, we hear, to enlarge this house shortly. Mr. Karl Van Biene, who was acting manager of the Queen's Cinema, Forest Gate, previously to coming to Hammersmith, was demobilised after 2½ years in France. He was attached to the Rifle Brigade, and was a prisoner of war for one year.

Poor Solomon.

Miss Violet Hopson's Aberdeen terrier, Solomon, who will play an important part in the next Broadwest production, "Her Son," has been obliged to undergo an operation. Someone stepped on one of Solomon's paws and crushed one of his little black toes. Miss Hopson hurried the valuable doggie to the vet., who decided amputation was necessary. So now Solomon is minus one toe, but he has, we hear, made a wonderful recovery, and is now running around and wagging his little tail as rapidly as ever.

"THE ERA" FILM SECTION

CINEMATOGRAPH EXHIBITORS' ASSOCIATION.

SHEFFIELD BRANCH.

There was a full attendance of members at the last meeting of the Sheffield Branch of the C.E.A., held in Wiley's Rooms, Hartshead, Sheffield, when Mr. W. H. Ravenscroft presided.

The secretary (Mr. S. E. Wright) reported progress with the A.M.U. in regard to the demands of the latter for increased wages and the proposed arbitration.

The Ministry of Labour advised that the arbitration had been referred to the Industrial Court, and that later on advice would be sent as to where and when the court would hold its sittings. It was resolved that Messrs. Ravenscroft, Wright, and Ward be appointed to look after the interests of the branch.

The Sheffield Branch of the Electrical Trades Union wrote asking for the minimum wages for operators, and also complained that no attention had been paid to a previous letter, and they threatened action if attention was not paid to their requests. Members were advised to use their own discretion individually, and to take whatever course they deemed advisable.

A circular from the General Council with regard to undertakings by film producers was read. From this it transpired that the question re Famous-Lasky bookings had been settled, and exhibitors were advised to resume bookings.

Granger's to Show French Photo-play.

Granger's will trade show, next to their super-Samuelson, "The Husband Hunter," a dramatic production by the French playwright, M. J. de Javon, entitled "The Cigarette," produced by "Le Film d'Art." The stars are that well-known Parisian favourite on both the stage and screen, Andrée Brabant, with Signoret, so well known for his clever work.

THE SHOWMAN WORLD.

Success of the Carnivals.

The open-air Christmas fairs have suffered badly in most places owing to the unpropitious weather, and during the present season those of the "Showman World" who have been under cover in the various exhibition buildings have cause to congratulate themselves on having secured sites. From the Agricultural Hall and Olympia come glowing reports of crowded attendance on each of the festive days, and tht same satisfactory news comes from the Waverley Market, Edinburgh, and the Carnival, Glasgow.

Another World's Fair.

A valuable site has been secured at Tonypandy, in Wales, by Mr. Robinson, the amusement caterer, and a new World's Fair is opening there this week. In addition to the usual fairground attractions, various games and competitions are being promoted to add to the attraction of the fair.

The Showmen's Guild in Scotland.

At the adjourned December meeting of the Scottish section of the Showmen's Guild, held in Edinburgh, a most satisfactory report was rendered by the branch secretary, Mr. T. E. Browne, at the end of his six months' service. The increase in subscriptions is considerably over £100 more than last year, and taking into consideration the extensive work carried out by the section, this is most satisfactory, especially as the concessions sought from civic authorities have in most cases been successful.

Presentation to Scottish Official.

Mr. Jas. Walker, the popular Superintendent of Dundee Markets, was the recipient of a handsome clock, presented by the stall holders as a recognition of his services to the tenants of the market.

A presentation of a set of silver fish-eaters was also made to Mrs. Walker.

There was a gathering of about one hundred stall holders and friends, presided over by Mr. Wm. Nicoll, in the Progress Hall, and in the various speeches, happy allusions were made to the tactful and ever genial manner in which Mr. Walker has always been at the service of the stall holders.

Funeral of Mr. Jas. Bostock.

The oldest member of the famous Bostock family, whose death occurred with such tragic suddenness at Olympia on Dec. 18, was buried in Christmas week at Abney Park Cemetery, adjoining the grave where his brother, Mr. Frank Bostock, was laid seven years ago. The large number of mourners included members of the family and many representatives of the Showman World, and the floral tributes were many and beautiful, from sorrowing friends all over the kingdom.

Annual Meetings of the Showmen's Guild.

Arrangements are in hand for the Manchester meeting at the Memorial Hall, on Jan. 13. This will follow committee meetings on the 12th, with a dinner at the Exchange Hotel, at which the officials and delegates will be entertained by the Lancashire section.

The London meeting will be held on the 20th at the Agricultural Hall, at the usual time, 11 a.m., followed by a Council meeting at 7 p.m., on the same date.

Another Circus Success.

The present boom in the circus shows no sign of abatement. The London and provincial papers are unanimous in their praises of the revival of the circus, and it is indeed satisfactory to note the general approval with which this section of the Showman World is meeting at present. It is five years since Bostock and Wombwell's Menagerie and Trained Animal Exhibition was seen in Birmingham, and on Christmas Eve an enormous crowd attended the opening performance. The colossal shows are placed on an excellent site at the end of New Corporation-street, and everything promises well for a successful run.

On the opening day Mr. J. R. W. Bostock handed over the sum of £70 to the treasurer of the "Birmingham Mail" Charity Fund, a generous gift, which was highly appreciated.

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FILM MARKINGS.

For the benefit of Exhibitors in London and the Provinces who are booking their programmes solely on our markings, we are in future giving further details. We would point out that the markings allotted to films in this section are given on their relative drawing power to showmen:—

Reference No. .. .. 6—10.

Suit high-class audience......A | Suit sensational audience C
Suit average audience........B | Suit any audience ....D

EXCLUSIVES.

Released.	Name.	Brand.	Description.	Feet.	Marks.	Suitability.
Not known	Through the Wrong Door ..	Stoll-Goldwyn	Comedy	5000	9	D
Not known	Parson	Stoll	—	2000	9½	D
Aug. 5 ..	Pulling it Over	Paramount-Art. Lasky	Comedy-Drama	5000	9½	D
Aug. 11 ..	A Widow by Proxy	Paramount-Art.	Comedy-Drama	5000	9	D
Not known	The Open Door	Jury's	Drama	5000	9	B
Not known	Memory—October	G.M. Granger	—	—	9	D
Not known	The Right Element	Granger-Samuelson	Drama	6000	9¼	B D
Not known	Happiness à la Mode ..	Walturdaw-Select	Skit Comedy	5000	9	A B
Not known	Jordan is a Hard Road ..	W'strn Imp'rt	Drama	5000	8½	B
Not known	Marked Cards	W'strn Imp'rt	Drama	5000	8½	B
Not known	Brass Buttons	Astra	Comedy-Drama	5000	8¾	B
Not known	Mind the Paint Girl.. ..	—	Comedy-Drama	5000	8¾	B
Not known	A Fight for Love	Gaumont-American	Drama	5000	9	B
Not known	Bird of Bagdad	Vitagraph-O.H.	Comedy	2000	8¾	B
Not known	The Girl Woman	Vitagraph	Comedy-Drama	5000	9	D
Not known	Marie, Ltd.	Walturdaw-Select	Comedy-Drama	—	8¾	B
Not known	Pathé Pictorial — ..	Pathé	Interest	—	9	D
Not known	Gaumont Gazette	Gaumont	Interest	—	9	D
Not known	Jack the Handy Man ..	Stoll's	Interest	2000	9	D
Not known	Fool's Gold	Stoll-American	Drama	5000	9	B
Not known	La Belle Russe	Fox	Drama	6000	9¼	B

OPEN MARKET.

Released.	Name.	Brand.	Description.	Feet.	Marks.	Suitability.
April 12 ..	Where are the Papers ..	Transatlantic C.C.	—	500	6¾	B
April 12 ..	Betty Burton, M.D.	Novelty	Comedy	1000	6¾	B
April 12 ..	Tobacco Growing and Cigar Making	—	Interest	600	7	D
April 15 ..	Their Brief Career	A.C.	—	850	7	B
April 15 ..	The Model Husbands ..	S.C.	—	950	7	B
April 15 ..	Screen Magazine	—	Interest	550	7	D

"MIDNIGHT FROLICS" AT KILBURN.

Song Show, Presented by Alfred Zeitlin and J. L. Davies at the Kilburn Empire on Monday, Jan. 5.

Light-hearted gaiety and colour are outstanding features of this charmingly arranged tabloid revue. It is a regular compôte of songs and dances, amusing comedy scenes, and excellent touches of burlesque against a background of black curtains and marble pillars.

It opens with a dispute between the principals as to who is the head of the show. This is settled by Mr. Gene Gerrard, the stage carpenter, with a large mallet. He is only appeased by being allowed to come into the show. He appears, to the intense amusement of the audience, as a tired railway porter, in one of his priceless studies of a slightly inebriated gentleman who cannot find his room, and as a terrifying Bolshevist in a duet with Mr. Monty Woolf. Miss Gertrude Lawrence's charm and versatility are given excellent scope. Her light, clear soprano voice is an attraction in itself, and her dancing, first in the duet with Mr. Arthur Margetson, "Your Great Big, Wise, Wonderful Eyes," and later as an immaculate young "gentleman," was much applauded. Mr. Arthur Margetson's best contributions were his clever impersonations of Mr. G. P. Huntley, Mr. Fred Emney, and Mr. Harry Weldon. These are always successful. Throughout the "Frolics" he proved himself an excellent light comedian with a decided sense of humour. Mr. Monty Woolf's rag-time numbers, which included "The Sultan's Harem" and "Where Poppies Bloom" (the latter with some pretty chorus effects), were greatly appreciated. The best thing in the show, however, was the burlesque of a "select" musical mélange, in which the four principals appeared. It is a screaming piece of burlesque, played for all it is worth. A full account of the "Frolics" is not complete without a tribute to Miss Ena Ball's delightful renderings of two new numbers, "Pearl of Persia" and "A Long Time Ago," and the dancing contributed by the small band of pretty chorus ladies.

Preceding the "Midnight Frolics" were many popular varieties. Miss Lucille Benstead sang three songs, including "Some Day I'll Make You Love Me," to the delight of the house. Dusty Rhodes pattered and sang his way into our affections, and Will Van Allen was as successful as ever in his wonderfully original musical act. Mr. Woolmer Young had an excellent reception for his "Kentucky Home" song; and something really fresh in the way of an entertainment was given by Mr. Horace Ainslie. His rag-time nursery rhymes are as neatly written as anything we have heard lately. The Hunberia Wu-Chiao Troupe of acrobats appear in an astounding series of balancing and contortionist marvels; and the Two Junes were seen in a well-executed "Apache" dance.

"EMPTIES."

Sketch, by A. J. Ramsey, Produced by Harry Shiels, at the Rotherhithe Hippodrome, on Monday, Jan. 5.

Lady Margaret Dunswick
Miss Nora Harrington
The Marquis of Nixey
Mr. Fred Dunstone
William Ramsbottom (Old Bill)
Mr. Harry Shiels

Mr. Shiels' new sketch is another episode in the life of "Bill." He has in this case won a famous old castle in a raffle. Bill thinks this is a public-house, and his dismay may be imagined when he arrives and finds the occupants of the stately mansion impersonating his butler and maid. This is increased when he learns that a ghost walks the place at midnight. When the ghost appears Bill hides in a trunk, and his altercations are most amusing. Finally he tells the occupants of the house they may keep it, and hands over to them the mansion's hidden treasure, two whiskey bottles, discovered to be "empties."

Mr. Harry Shiels as Bill creates roars of laughter by his humorous impersonation, his numerous gags being very funny. He is supported by pretty Miss Nora Harrington and Mr. Fred Dunstone, both of whom do well.

In the variety portion of the programme S. W. Wyndham makes a big hit with three numbers, "Cuckoo," "I'm Not Going Home To-night," and an encore; and Dolly Elsworthy also occupies a prominent place in Mr. Wallie Rice's current bill. The popular comedienne's first number, "Winkle," including the spoof monologue, and her second, "Old Bill's Come Home," are both excellent. The O'Shea steppers, a couple of clever juveniles, appear in "Raggedy-Doo," song and dance, and other dances. Spitari, novelty ventriloquist, appears as an R.A.F. officer, with mechanic as doll, and numerous quips and gags and a musical number result. Norman White's clever musical automator act is both interesting and amusing, and the Bellinis' sensational gymnastic act is heartily applauded. Etta Howard, a clever comedienne and mimic; and Joyce and Shields, two smart step-dancers, complete the bill.

The death at Paris of M. Louis Diémer removes a figure of considerable prominence in French, and more particularly Parisian, music of the last generation. Born in 1843, Diémer entered the Conservatoire at an early age, and won academic distinctions. He became well known in France and to connoisseurs in other countries as a pianist of high attainments.

Miss Anne Beaufort will give a dramatic recital at the Æolian Hall on Wednesday next at 8 p.m., when she will recite in English, French, and dialect, making a speciality of the idioms of her native Lancashire.

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"WHIPS AND QUIPS."

Messrs. Beresford and Pearce's sporting revue, "Whips and Quips," proved a great attraction at the Royal Hippodrome, Dover, for the week commencing Dec. 29. Set in "five furlongs," it is a bright and entertaining production. Jack Masters (Mr. Leslie Deane) is keen on his horse winning, and in the event of it doing so he proposes, and is accepted in marriage by Maisie Gordon (Miss Gracie Hartington). A couple of scoundrels seek to destroy Jack's chances; but, of course, all ends happily. Miss Gracie Hartington is a very charming Queenie, and adds to her success by her delightful vocalism. Her numbers include "That Wonderful Mother of Mine," "A Little Gift of Roses," and the duet, "If You Could Care," with Jack. As Jack Mr. Leslie Deane must be congratulated, his numbers all being admirably rendered. Miss Ida Lincoln plays Maisie Gordon with much charm and vivacity. Her numbers are all rendered in a most attractive way. These include "They're Off," "Tennessee," and "Peaches," all of which are finely supported as chorus numbers. Miss Madge Emery as the jockey of Victory, Miss Kathleen De Lorne as Lilian, Miss Jean Clifford as the stable lad, and Mr. Bert Arnold as the yokel all do valuable work. Miss Belle Davis's troupe of jockeys, in dances, &c, must be congratulated for their dances. The music is bright and tuneful, and the revue is altogether a most attractive one.

"DICK WHITTINGTON" AT WESTCLIFF.

C. A. Stephenson's Christmas pantomime, successfully produced at the New Palace Theatre, Westcliff-on-Sea, drew crowded houses during the holiday week. The scenery and dresses were well up to the average, and there was some excellent dancing by Miss Ivy Clark, who also sang well as the Fairy Bowbell. As Idle Jack, of many illnesses, Mr. C. A. Stephenson was indefatigable in the fun-making line; and George Power as Cook Martha, George Derrick and Cyril Noel as Captain and Mate, ably seconded his efforts. Miss Nora Green both sang and danced well, and endeared herself to the audience as Alice; and a lively, well-set-up Whittington was provided in the shape of Miss Olive Kay. King Rat had a worthy and fearsome representative in Mr. Trevor Williams; Master Norman Court proved a delightful tabby cat, Togo Meiow; and Misses Thyra Draper, Lilian Tollis, and Kitty Jay did well in small parts.

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"CINDERELLA" AT DUBLIN.

"Cinderella," this season's pantomime at the Empire Theatre, Dublin, is attracting crowded and delighted audiences, and we can with confidence predict a long and successful career for Mr. Barney Armstrong's Christmas production.

Miss Bettie Charna is a winsome Cinderella, and her delightful singing elicits well-deserved applause. Miss Queenie Finnis, as the Prince, is an attractive principal boy, and sings and dances with equally successful results. Mr. Charles Kasrac is a capital Baron, while Mr. Mike Nono, as the Baroness, has a part in which he has full scope to display his ability as an Irish comedian. Misses Kasrac play the parts of the proud sisters; they sing together, dance, perform acrobatic turns, and feats of strength with marked effect. Their duet "Jerry" is also well received.

Miss Sonia Seal, as Dandine, has many good songs which she sings well. Miss Mary Connolly, as the Fairy Godmother, does not make many appearances, but when she does she appeals to everybody with her magnificent voice. Mr. Victor Kelly also scores as "Spotter," and Mr. Claude Nestor as a page, and no respecter of persons, is a decided favourite.

The Shamrock Troupe of Dancers, led by Miss Nan Russell, are enthusiastically greeted at each appearance. Little Mike O'Hare, always popular with Empire audiences, is, in this panto., quite a feature, and the Ascots are responsible for a "speciality" dancing interlude.

"Cinderella" is produced in two acts and nine scenes, the final one being a riot of splendour and colour. There is much excellent dancing and singing by the chorus. The traditional carriage, drawn on to the stage by real ponies, is a gorgeous affair. It is picked out in lights, and presents a dazzling appearance.

Len Teel, who is playing Widow Twankey at the Elephant and Castle, has made a big success, his dame being a very amusing and popular creation.

"WHITAKER'S ALMANACK."

This annual publication first appeared in the year 1868, and this is therefore the 52nd annual issue. The information given in this famous reference book is not only as comprehensive as usual, but fresh features have been introduced. Nations which have gained recognition as an outcome of the war now appear for the first time among the foreign countries; and an entirely new section deals with "Questions of the Day." The pages devoted to the drama furnish a list of the principal productions of the year, and the theatres at which they were produced. A special section also contains an account of the various places of interest and amusement in London, together with a list of the metropolitan theatres and music halls and the principal cinemas. The price of the popular edition is 2s. 6d., and the larger edition 6s.

A Mischa-Leon Recital.

After a brilliantly successful tour in Ireland and the West of England, M. Mischa-Leon has returned to town, and will give another recital in the Æolian Hall on Saturday next. His programme includes such works as Holbrooke's strangely neglected "Annabel Lee," Elgar's "Speak Music," Roussel's "Le Bachelier de Salamanque," and Eleazar's air from Halevy's "La Juive," besides interesting Scandinavian and German groups. The Elgar and Holbrooke numbers will be accompanied by double string quartet and pianoforte, as originally intended by the composers.

In order to give those who wish to do so an opportunity of retiring before the German group is sung, this group will be placed at the end of the programme.

In our notice last week of "Too Many Girls" (Mr. Courtneidge's production) at the Hippodrome, Liverpool, we mentioned Miss Macdermott as the lady who played in the episode, "Blackpool." We are informed that it was Miss Jessie Preston, who took part in this humorous and cleverly worked episode.

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Panto. 1919-20. Principal Boy. Robinson Crusoe. Jazon & Montgomery
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Hope I don't work next week—rather anxious to see the new home and the bunch.
Great week at Birkenhead last week.
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Panto. for Messrs. HOWARD & WYNDHAM

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CALLS FOR JANUARY 12, 1920.

THE LONDON COLISEUM.
Rehearsal at 10 a.m. for:—
Miss Phyllis Neilson-Terry, Yorke and Leonard in "In Hosiery," Loie Fuller's School of Dancing, Linga Singh, Violet Essex, Nathano Bros., The Jovers, Paul Gordon, E. J. Moore, Bioscope.

STOLL PICTURE THEATRE, KINGSWAY.
(London Opera House.)
Pictures and Varieties.

THE HACKNEY EMPIRE.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—
The Stellios, Rich Hayes, Frank Whitman, Osborne and Perryer, M'Lita Dolores, Armstrong and Howarth, Woodward and Page, Bioscope.

SHEPHERD'S BUSH EMP.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—
"On the Wing."

THE CHISWICK EMPIRE.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—
Matthew Newton, Clarke and Ritchie, Bergonzi and Frances, Eileen and Marjorie, Estelle Rose, Hanbury and Schofield, 3 Van Dammes, Bioscope.

WOOD GREEN EMPIRE.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—
Knut Brook, Will Gardner, Zetta Mor, Leslie Strange, Holden and Graham, Ernest Krake and Co., Bioscope.

BRISTOL HIPPODROME.
Rehearsal at 12.30 p.m. for:—
Ethel Toms, Hayman and Lowe, Hanlon Bros., Sandy Powell, Bioscope.

CHATHAM EMPIRE.
Rehearsal at 2.30 p.m. for:—
Selbini Duo, Duncan and Godfrey, Bioscope, and Company as booked.

BEDMINSTER HIPPO.
Pictures and Varieties.

THE LEICESTER PALACE.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—
"Sons of the Sea."

THE ARDWICK EMPIRE.
Rehearsal at 12.30 p.m. for:—
Charles Stevens, Pierce and Roslyn, Mazus and Mazette, Mayne and Sheridan, Lake and Barrasford, Bioscope.

MANCHESTER HIPPO.
Rehearsal at 10 a.m. for:—
Brown and Potter, George Calver, Fred Milner, Alexander Prince, Bioscope.
(Matinees Monday and Tuesday).

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NOTE.—Artistes engaged at any of the above theatres should send photos for display in front of the house to Manager, to be returned at the end of the week.

NOTE.—All Sketches played at the above theatres must be licensed by the Lord Chamberlain, and a copy of the licence, together with script as licensed, must be sent to the Stoll Offices at least 21 days before date of performance.

Arrangements for additional Theatres include—

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The distance as the crow flies between the Finsbury Park Empire and the Wood Green Empire, measured on the Ordnance Survey Map, is 2 miles 60 yards.—Edward Stanford.

14 BAND PARTS REQUIRED for all Theatres except The London Coliseum which requires at least 20, including 4 first Violin Parts, 2 second Violin Parts, separate 'Cello and Bass Parts, full Wood, Wind and Brass, Conductor. (Harp and Organ if required).

STAGE DEPARTMENT.—Songs proposed to be sung should be submitted, and special stage requirements stated, in letters marked "Stage Department," by Artistes three weeks before opening.

ADVERTISING MATTER.—Bills, Blocks, Photographs, and specimens of Pictorials really representing the Act, should be forwarded three weeks before opening. If return of photographs required, please say so.

COARSENESS, VULGARITY, &c., is not allowed. The Licensing Authorities forbid this and the majority of the public resent it. This intimation is only rendered necessary by a very few Artistes.

ARTISTES' SCENERY AND PROPERTIES must be fireproofed or they cannot be brought into the Theatre. This is by order of the Licensing Authorities.

BUSINESS NOTICE OF GENERAL APPLICATION.—No order or contract for goods or services must be accepted for any of the above Theatres except upon receipt of an Official Form issued from the Offices, London, and signed by either Mr. Oswald Stoll or the Secretary, otherwise the Company concerned will not be responsible for same, and will refuse payment. In special cases where goods are required at once suppliers must look to the individual placing the orders, who will be personally liable, unless an official confirmatory order, signed as above, is received within 48 hours. Invoices must be sent to the Theatre, but monthly statements should be sent to the above Head Offices. The individual Company on whose behalf orders are signed is solely responsible for payment. The Management will not hold themselves responsible in the event of loss or damage to any MSS., Songs, &c., submitted for consideration.

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Calls for Monday, Jan. 12, 1920.

LONDON PAVILION.
Rehearsal at 11.30.
C. B. Cochran's Production "Afgar."

OXFORD.
Rehearsal at 12.
C. B. Cochran's Production "Maggie."

METROPOLITAN.
Rehearsal at 12.15.
Dick Ray presents "Sunshine."
Hamamura Family. Winston Players.
W. H. Brand. Frank Keith.
Mlle. Doria's Dogs. Vera Caine. Bioscope.

CHELSEA.
Rehearsal at 12.
Harry Burns presents
"The Honeymoon Express."
West End Productions, Ltd., present
"Bluebell in Fairyland."
(Matinees only at 2).

EUSTON.
Rehearsal at 12.
Mrs. Bert Gilbert presents "Music at Home."
Sybil Arundale. Makido Family.
Dolly Elsworthy. Dene Dunlop. Alpho.
Van Bern. Hart & O'Brian.
Hindle & Gertie Rees. Fred Keeton.
Bioscope.

SOUTH LONDON.
Rehearsal at 12.
George French. Four Elmores.
Dario and Partner. Les Grandes Stellas.
Two Junes. Jack Warman. Selwyn. Auber.
Two Boyds. Bioscope.

EAST HAM.
Rehearsal at 12.
Harry Burns presents Pantomime
"Dick Whittington."

TOTTENHAM.
Rehearsal at 12.
Burlesque Productions present Pantomime
"Mother Goose."

EMPRESS, BRIXTON.
Rehearsal at 12.
Harry Burns presents "Nights of Gladness."

WALTHAMSTOW PALACE.
Rehearsal at 1.
Harry Burns presents Pantomime, "Robinson Crusoe."

WATFORD PALACE.
Rehearsal at 1.
W. E. Holloway and E. A. Pickering present
"Our Mr. Hepplewhite."

These Calls are communicated by the Management for the information of Artistes without prejudice.
Bill matter to be sent direct to each hall three weeks prior to date of opening.

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WHERE DO FLIES GO IN THE WINTERTIME?

IN THE LAND OF BEGINNING AGAIN. KIDNAP ME.
THTOP YOUR THTUTTERING, THAMMY. ORIENTAL ROSEBUD.

IF YOU COULD CARE

WHAT DO YOU MEAN BY LOVING SOMEBODY ELSE? L'IL LIZA JANE.
WHERE DID YOU FIND THE LADY? BY THE CAMP FIRE.

IMPORTANT NOTICE.

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"I KNOW WHERE THE FLIES GO IN THE WINTERTIME"

Which will be released for Artistes coming out of Pantomime.

EVERYTHING IS PEACHES DOWN IN GEORGIA

CAN YOU TAME WILD WIMMEN? I WANT A DOLL.
WHO KILLED POOR PUSSYFOOT? CHONG.

I'M SORRY I MADE YOU CRY

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- DOWN AROUND THE RIVER (At the Dixie Jubilee)
- THE TALK OF THE TOWN
- LET'S ALL BE GOOD PALS TOGETHER
- CHRISTMAS CHIMES
- SURE, AN' IT'S ME THAT KNOWS
- BETTY
- LIFE

NEW SONGS.

- I'LL GET HIM YET
- DOWN WHERE THE RAJAHS DWELL
- I'M ALWAYS WATCHING CLOUDS ROLL BY
- YOU'LL SEE THE DAY
- SUNNY FLORIDA (Instrumental)
- SWANEE DREAM (Valse Beautiful)
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